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THE LETTER I DID NOT SEND

He was the friend of my boyhood,
My youth and my manhood's prime,
We had vowed to be ever faithful
To the end of our earthly time.
But somehow it happened we quarreled;
One word to another led;
And our eyes were flashing in anger
And bitter was all we said.

That night I wrote such a letter
As one might write to a foe,
And told him that never thereafter
Would I wish his presence to know;
We must pass each other as strangers,
Our lives henceforward apart;
And let him know that forever
I had torn him out of my heart.

Then I sought my bed, still raging,
But I courted slumber in vain;
The face of my more than brother
Rose before me ever again.
He was always so true beside me
And sharing all changes of life;
Our words had been always of loving
And never till now of strife.

And then our quarrel—what was it?
How did it ever befall?
Perhaps he was right—yes, I know it,
It was I in the wrong, after all.
Then I rose from my bed, took the letter
And cast it into the fire;
And there saw it smolder in ashes;
And thus did my anger expire.

A fair morning shone on our meeting;
A look we could each understand
Had drawn us once more together
In a warm, firm grasp of the hand.
Not a word was said of our quarrel,
Again it was friend and friend,
Thank God that he never saw it—
The letter I did not send!
—George Birdseye, in Boston Globe.

THE DYSPEPTIC.

When others seek the festal board,
Where holiday repasts afford
A genial fragrance far and near
Which glorifies the atmosphere,
I linger like a spectre guest,
A sombre creature of unrest,
Hushing each light and joyous tone
Where'er I make my presence known.

Whene'er the carving knife I see,
It brings no thrill of hope to me.
From soup to pudding I must wait
A figure sad to contemplate,
And when amid an awful hush
They bring around my oatmeal mush,
I vent my feelings in one moan;
One solemn and sepulchral groan.

I ask no sceptre; no renown;
No laurel wreath; no flashing crown;
No friendship in my loneliness;
No smile; no languishing caress.
Let others climb the peaks of fame,
Or follow love's fantastic flame;
I grimly trust myself to fate,
And clench my teeth and hope and wait.

Some time, when I relief have won,
When all these pennances are done,
Some time, some sweet and cherished time,
I'll yield myself to bliss sublime;
And that hour, though it be my last,
Shall make me quite forget the past,
When I may fold my hands and say,
With drowsy joy, "I've dined to-day."
—Washington Star.

PRESIDENT LOUBET WANTED TO STAY.

President Loubet, of France, scored a big success with his banquet to 20,000 of the distinguished visitors to the Paris exposition. Not only were his guests delighted with their entertainment, but M. Loubet was greatly pleased with his company. Here is a pleasant little instance of this which has not as yet got into the papers. After the banquet, when, in the salon adjoining the table d'honneur, he was receiving the compliments of the ministers, deputies and senators, M. Loubet came up to him announcing that all was ready for his departure. But M.

"GIVE ME A FEW MINUTES MORE."

Loubet, like the good fellow that he is, was enjoying the company of his guests quite as much as they were enjoying his. And he was not slow to show it.

"Give me a few minutes more," he said, with his polly smile. "I would like to smoke my cigar out."

HUMOR OF THE DAY.

She (at football game, as player is carried off the field)—Isn't it perfectly awful? He—I should say it is! Why, that fellow is no more unconscious than I am—he's playing to the gallery.—Brooklyn Life.

They caught the shrewd defaulter—oh, it was a careless prank;
But he came sneaking back at night to carry off the bank.
—Chicago Record.

Jack (at club window)—There goes Jenkins with his auto., and I'll be blowed if he hasn't a tiger up behind.
George—Tiger nothing! That's the repair man.—Brooklyn Life.

"'Pay as you go' is a good rule," remarked the man of means.
"Sometimes," responded the young man with the diamond, "but not always."
"When, for instance?"
"Well, in our business, it all depends on whether a man has baggage. If he hasn't he has to pay as he comes."
Then, of course, they knew he was a hotel clerk.—Chicago Post.

"I'll get even with that fellow," exclaimed Snickers, the humorist.
"What has he done?"
"I told him to depict my family tree, and he made it a chestnut."—Detroit Free Press.

I have no stomach for him who
Combats my views. You see,
He makes me sick; at least, 'tis true,
He disagrees with me.

A Story of Dumas.

One day Alexander Dumas visited Marseilles and made a trip to the Chateau d'If to visit the palace he had helped to make famous. The guide showed him everything, also the subterranean passage by which Abbe Faria used to visit each other.

"This passage was dug by Abbe Faria by the aid of a fishbone," the guide explained. "M. Dumas tells about it in his story of 'Monte Cristo.'"

"Indeed," replied the author. "Alexander Dumas must be familiar with all the surroundings here. Perhaps you know him?"

"I should think so; he is one of my best friends."

"And are you one of his," replied the impulsive scribe, letting two louis d'or slip into the hands of the astonished guide.—London Daily News.

Nineteenth Century Progress.

When one looks back upon the advancement of humanity in the century just closing, the first feeling is one of bewilderment at its manifold phases. In every respect, life is now better, happier, and more worth living, than at any previous time in the long history of the human race.

Surveying the civilized world as it was at the dawn of 1801, and comparing that with the conditions which exist a century later, there are three things which stand out as basic in the material advancement of the world, and as contributing most to the improvement of the conditions of life. These are:

The means of rapid communication and commerce by land and sea;

The invention and general introduction of machinery to do the world's work;

And the bringing of electrical force under human control, and its varied applications to usefulness.

Though the steam engine was an invention to be credited to the eighteenth century, its use as a motive power for transportation belongs to the nineteenth. A century ago, all commerce and travel by water was in sailing vessels; all inland communication was on horseback, or in vehicles drawn by horses. Roads were uniformly bad. Mankind seemed, curiously enough, to have forgotten the example of the Romans, who built paved roads leading to all parts of the empire—one of the principal reasons for the long lease of power Rome held as mistress of the world. When the nineteenth century dawned turnpikes were the exception; and the world had just turned its attention to the need of such thoroughfares when the steam railway became the pattern of the world's highways.

A century ago, a man spent his life, as a rule, at or near his birthplace. Travel was difficult and expensive. To remove to a new locality was even a more formidable task. In 1800, the journey from New York to Boston by land—234 miles—required three days of bumping and jolting in a stage-coach, spending two nights on the road, at taverns where he was obliged to share his room with others. Traveling for pleasure was practically unknown. Journeys by water were as uncomfortable as by land. It took sometimes a week to go from Albany to New York, by sloop on the Hudson—and the traveler had to find his own bedding and food.

The conditions which the difficulty, the slowness and the cost of transportation, whether of the person or of merchandise, imposed a century ago can hardly be realized at this day. People were isolated. The newspapers of that day were nearly all weeklies; and one of them did not contain as much news, all told, as two columns of a present-day sheet. It took three weeks for a letter to go from New York to St. Louis. All articles which could not be produced on a farm were high in price, because of the slowness and cost of transportation. The only way in which a farmer in Ohio could get his corn to market was to feed it to cattle, sheep and hogs, and then drive them on foot over the mountains to the eastern cities.

The "whiskey insurrection" in western Pennsylvania was the direct result of this lack of cheap and easy transportation. The farmers of that section distilled whisky from their corn, and hauled the barrels to Philadelphia on great Conestoga wagons. The national government imposed an internal revenue tax upon liquors, ad there was a revolt in consequence, which President Washington was obliged to suppress by armed force.

Farm products, in sections far from great markets, were absurdly low, because of the difficulty of transportation. Money did not circulate freely, because of the isolation of the inhabitants. The lowest rate of postage was eight cents for a single sheet letter for a distance under 40 miles; the same letter from New York to Toledo (had there been any Toledo in 1801), would have cost 25 cents postage. Hence, letters were luxuries.

Now a telegraphic message costs but little more than the postage on a letter a century ago. The era of rapid transportation has wrought a revolution, and added enormously to the happiness and comfort of the masses of the people. One has to realize the privations of ordinary life to all classes in 1801 to be duly thankful for the vast improvement within the century since then.

Even greater has been the addition to human convenience and happiness by the use of machinery. A century ago, the farmer's wife and daughters carded the wool clipped from the backs of his sheep, spun and dyed and wove it, and from the cloth made garments for the family. Flax was raised, and from it the family supply of linen was also made at home. The general introduction of carding, spinning and weaving by machinery has revolutionized all this. The cotton gin enabled cotton fabrics to drive linen from the field.

More than this, the general introduction of machinery has changed our whole industrial system. In 1801, the local shoemaker took the measure of his customers' feet, and made boots and shoes to order. Now one can buy a machine-made pair, far lighter and better, for a fraction of the cost then. The sewing machine, and a thousand other inventions, have absolutely revolutionized labor in every department. The result is that every one has conveniences and comforts as part of his every-day life which were undreamed of when the century dawned. Through modern means of transportation, raw materials from every part of our own country, as well as from foreign lands, are brought to the manufacturing centers, and the finished products sent broadcast—and at prices lower than were then imagined possible.

The invention of the power press, of the linotype, and parallel subordinate machines, including new processes for paper-making from wood, have rendered newspapers, magazines and books so cheap as to place them within the reach of all. The spread of knowledge has been amazing. This agnia touches rapid transportation of mails the world around, and the wholesale utilization of the telegraph and ocean cables for the transmission of news. Even a half-century ago, the line "Five days later from Europe" was familiar in the news column of the daily papers. Now each evening the newspaper gives its readers the happenings of that day from every quarter of the globe.

It would take volumes to recapitulate the advantages that have resulted from the manifold inventions of the century. The inadequate mention above must suffice. The third and last of the great advance steps in the world's progress during the nineteenth century is the development of electricity as man's servant. In 1801, it was simply a subject for curious laboratory experiments. The invention of the telegraph followed next, and its marvelous development for the rapid transmission of intelligence revolutionized business. The telegraph was the necessary coadjutor of the railroad, and neither would have reached its full use without the other. Then came the telephone and electric light, followed closely by the utilization of electricity as a motive power in passenger transportation and for industrial machinery. The development of electrical utilization along these lines has been phenomenal, but it is not too much to say that, as the twentieth century opens, it is still in is infancy. Its utility to man will prove greater than that of steam, or of any other agency now known. If one could but lift the veil of futurity, and take a glimpse of the yet unimagined uses of this subtle agent in the year 2000!

Compared with a century ago, life is infinitely fuller and freer at the present time. What was unattainable, and often unimagined luxuries then, are every-day conveniences now. We may well thank the kindly fate which placed our careers at the dawn of the twentieth century instead of the nineteenth—with only the regret that our earthly advent was not postponed until the beginning of the twenty-first.

S. S. KNABENSHUE.

SECOND GROWTH PINE IN MICHIGAN

THE EFFECT OF REPLANTING PINE.

The history of American forests is one of ruthless extravagance and rapacity, coupled with senseless disregard for the possibilities or necessities of future populations. Especially is this true of the Michigan white pine regions. Where a quarter of a century ago stood magnificent pines of highest grade now is seen only a frightful expanse of blackened ruin. Here and there remains a stately survivor, mutely protesting against the ruin. But even these are scarce.

There could have been but little objection to the removal of the large pine, which was ready to be harvested, had the remaining timber considered too poor to be taken, been cared for subsequently.

Purchasers of cheap government lands were too eager to enjoy new possibilities in money-making to give second thought to lands from which the best timber had been removed. Forest fires of appalling magnitude and destructiveness swept repeatedly through the slashings destroying everything of value, including vast quantities of low grade and half-grown pine, splendid hardwood and other timber. All second growth was killed or so stunted and deformed as to be utterly spoiled. Thousands of square miles of Michigan timber lands now show nothing but blackened stumps and stubs of pine.

Many years ago John Mansfield purchased a tract of low land near Hesperia, Newaygo county, Mich., which was covered with pine, ash and cedar. In 1875 Fred Mansfield, John's son, then a boy, helped to remove the timber. The year after a growth of young pine started spontaneously from the seed. About two acres were fenced and allowed to grow without further attention. Now the Mansfield pine grove is celebrated throughout the White River valley in which it forms a conspicuous landmark. The grove is used as a hog lot, the dense shade precluding the possibility of vegetation.

The owner, a practical farmer and lumberman, does not regard the timber as being of special value, though the future may make it worth considerable. He prizes it highly, however.

The trees are not in good condition to lumber, because the first limbs are within five to eight feet of the ground. Pine for lumbering should have no limbs lower than sixty feet from the ground. While a good tree should measure 75 to 100 feet without a crotch, not one of the trees in this grove is more than 24 feet to the crotch. Mr. Mansfield explains this condition by saying that young pine growth is as tender as a cornstalk, and being exposed to high winds these have broken off, leaving the subsequent growth to form crotches, which ruin the growth subsequently made. The tall, straight trees without limbs which yielded the finest lumber grew in the shelter of hardwood trees until they overtopped them. This timber has grown without any care whatever, and shows that had care been bestowed upon it would show an excellent second growth of white pine in 25 years—Detroit Journal.

LAW STUDENT HAD A SURE THING

If Chief Justice McFarland of the California supreme court were a betting man he doubtless would be willing to risk a small wager that a certain young law student will some day make his mark. The youngster had just taken the law examinations and had failed. Said Justice McFarland, by way of consolation:

"It's really too bad that you could not have been admitted to the bar after your

"THANK YOU, SIR," REPLIED THE WOULD-BE LAWYER.

first trial, but then, you know, the brightest men often fail the first examination."

"Thank you, sir," replied the would-be lawyer. "I failed this time, but I feel cock-sure that I can make it on my second try."

"Your confidence is commendable," replied the justice; "but it is not well to be over-confident. What makes you so sure?"

"Well, I know that I have tried once and failed. Now, if the supreme court has decided once that I am not bright enough to practice law it's a pretty sure sign that the second trial will pass me, for who ever heard of the supreme court having rendered the same decision twice?"—Chicago Chronicle.

DUKE OF YORK ESCAPED A SALUTE

The duke of York, son of the Prince of Wales, is somewhat democratic in his leanings. A story illustrating his disposition is told by Capt. Worcester, one of the most popular captains in the P. & O. fleet. Some years ago his ship was

"AWFULLY SORRY," SAID A JOLLY VOICE.

lying in Malta harbor waiting for the duke of York—then Prince George—to come on board. Capt. Worcester said to his young chief officer: "As soon as you see the duke coming off, man the yards at once and send for me to my cabin." A few minutes afterward the captain heard a boat alongside, and immediately after the young officer saying in a querulous, high-pitched tone to the passenger who was stepping on board:

"I say, when's that prince coming? I wish he'd look sharp; I'm tired of waiting."

"Awfully sorry," said a jolly voice, "but I came off purposely as quietly as I could, as I thought you'd want to man the yards or something of that sort. As I am a sailor myself, I know what a bore that is when you are busy coaling." It was the duke of York.—Chicago Chronicle.

LOST HIS BET.

The other day a Londoner said to a countryman:

"I'll bet you anything you like that you cannot spell three simple words that I shall give you within forty seconds."

"I'll take that on. Now, then, what are they?" said the countryman.

"Well, here goes," said the Londoner, as he pulled out his watch: "London."

"London."

"Watching."

"W-a-t-c-h-i-n-g."

"Wrong," said the Londoner.

"What?" exclaimed the countryman in surprise tones; "I've spelled the words you gave me correctly. "I am certain I'm not——"

"Time's up!" the Londoner said, triumphantly; "why didn't you spell the third word w-r-o-n-g?"—Spare Moments.

TIRED OF BEING IN PRINT.

"Mr. Smithers," said his wife, "if I remember rightly you have often said that you disliked to see a woman constantly getting herself into print."

"I do," said Smithers, positively.

"You considered it unwomanly and indelicate, I believe?"

"Very."

"And you don't see how any man could allow his wife to do anything of the kind?"

"Yes, I think so now."

"Well, Mr. Smithers, in view of all the facts in the case, I feel justified in asking you for a new silk dress."

"A new silk dress?"

"Yes; for the last eight years I have had nothing better than four-penny calico and I want something better. I'm tired of getting into print."—Tit-Bits.

A Discussion of the Supernatural.

"Mammy," said Pickaninny Jim, who had maintained a long and thoughtful silence, "is dar any sech ting as cullud folks' hants?"

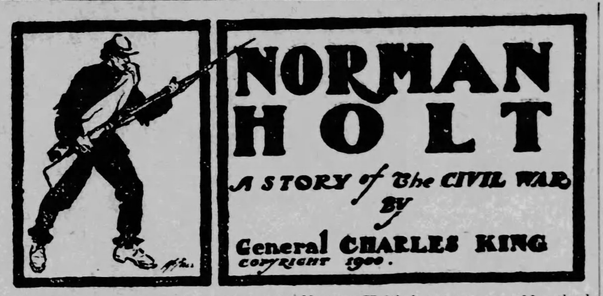
"You mean ghoses," rejoined Aunt Maria as she turned from the ironing-board. "Yas m."

"Well, sonny, you has hit on a subjeck dat's been givin' science a heap o' trouble. Maybe dar is culled folks'' ghoses an' maybe dar ain't. De difficulty of ascertainment lies in de fack dat if dar was a cullud folks' ghos' his complexion would be so dahk dat you couldn't notice 'im."—Washington Star.

Good Definition.

"Why do you call that speckled hen Macduff and the pig Barkis?"

"Because Macduff lays on and Barkis is swillin'."—Life.



NORMAN HOLT

A STORY of the CIVIL WAR By General CHARLES KING

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(Synopsis of Preceding Chapters.)

Norman Holt, favorite son of an old Kentucky family, is reprimanded at West Point for dueling, and is withdrawn by his high-spirited father. His homecoming in the winter of 1860 is celebrated by an old-fashioned Kentucky Christmas gathering. Among the guests are Daisy Lane, daughter of Dr. Holt's lawyer, and J. Burnett Malloy, both of Cincinnati. The latter brings letters of introduction from Lane's partner, Mr. McIntyre, and is courteously received, but arouses the jealousy of Norman Holt by his attention to Daisy Lane. Malloy separates Miss Lane from the main party during a fox hunt, and at the Christmas ball the same evening affects an air of proprietorship distasteful to Daisy and obnoxious to his rival, Norman Holt. But ill feeling is forgotten when at midnight all surround Dr. Holt to drink the Christmas punch, when the ceremony is interrupted by a midnight messenger, who announces the dangerous illness of Judge McIntyre. Investigations reveal his financial affairs in a hopeless tangle, and the Holt fortune dissipated. Henry and Norman Holt enter Lane's law office in Cincinnati. Norman Holt enlists as private in Ohio infantry, Malloy, through political influence, is lieutenant in the same company, and Henry Holt joins the Confederate forces.

CHAPTER VI.—(Continued.)

Then Malloy came home and not so much by what he said as by what he intimated told tales of Norman Holt that undermined Theodore's feeble, superficial faith, and made that weak vessel only moderately glad to see Norman again.

Norman saw with sorrow Theodore's changed manner and ill appearance. He saw, with something like dismay, that the lad was drinking to excess and frequenting the old resorts. In a burst of confidence, late in June, Theodore had written the details of his father's discovery and the payment of his harassing debts and the total stoppage of his allowance. Yet here he was again treating lavishly as was his wont, punting at pool and billiards and losing himself at night in a faro bank. Whence came the means? Norman saw, with bitter and jealous pain, that the young fellow was now quite frequently with Malloy. Coming up from camp with a patrol of absentees he was surprised to find Theodore at 6 o'clock one summer morning, looking vastly as though he had been up all night, slinking and skulking at the vestibule of the Malloy homestead. What sought he there and at that hour?

Norman, with throbbing heart, had called at the Lanes' twice. Once, with her mother, he had seen the girl he loved. Once ladies begged to be excused, yet as he looked ruefully back from the street below, surely he could not be mistaken, it was Daisy who appeared in an instant at an open window and gazed at him and put her finger to her lips. But she was gone as quickly—gone all of a sudden, as though she dreaded being found there. What spell was over the child?

Then he had striven to communciate with his father, and the letters were returned, unopened. The old man's wrath was unappeased. Then he had written to Henry. He longed to see the old home again. Kentucky was still "neutral." People went to and fro, no matter whether they were Southern or Union in sympathies. He might be able, he wrote, to get away for two days—run down by night boat to Louisville and out to Belleview by morning train. Would not Henry urge the father to reconsider and to grant his boy one meeting—one conference? This time came a line in the old doctor's trembling hand.

"Unless you would add to the wrong you have done your name, never dare set foot at Belleview so long as you wear that uniform."

The rapidly arriving regiments from across the Ohio, untaught and undisciplined as yet, were being herded into camps well out in front of the metropolis, while the daring invaders from the South hung on and fortified at Bowling Green. There followed two months of incessant drill and preparation, of occasional alarm, and then there came a day when a great surprise awaited the sad, silent Kentuckian in the humble private's dress. He was drilling a squad of raw men in the manual of arms when the first sergeant came forward with some new arrival. "Take these young fellows, too, corporal," said he, for already "Cap" had found means to "lance" his favorite to that grade, pending the coming of a vacancy, and turning quickly, Norman's astonished eyes fell upon the foremost of the squad in cheap, ill-fitting blue—it was Theodore Lane.

Three days later, just before the blessed Christmastide was ushered in, there came a sensation beside which this was forgotten. Late in the afternoon six companies of the regiment, "C" among them, had been loaded in flat cars and sent jolting slowly away southward. Cavalry—some of Johnston's regiment—had been scouting about Bardstown for a week, and the air was full of rumor and whisperings. With aching eyes and compressed lips, Norman Holt stood clinging to a stanchion and gazing out over the well-remembered landscape.

At last there was a stop and orders were given to scramble out, and in the dim light the companies reformed and the captains rectified the alignment on the center. A troop of cavalry, dismounted, stood or sprawled across the open space a few rods away. Dim lights were gleaming here and there in the cluster of dark houses to the left. The train backed away. "Going for the rest of the regiment," was the explanation, and the order was passed to the men to stack arms, build their little fires, spread their blankets and get such sleep as they might.

Norman had only just unslung knapsack when a sergeant came from the right of the line. "Cap wants you," was his amateur method of conveying the message, and Cap said the colonel wished to see Corporal Holt at once. Norman's face was very pale as he stepped within dimly lighted office at the railway station. A dozen horses, held by orderlies, were clustered about the little building. Three or four cavalry officers were chatting in low tone on the platform. The colonel, his forage-cap pulled down over his eyes, was leaning back in an armchair and slashing at his knee with the tassel of his crimson sash. The adjutant was scribbling at some papers at the bare, wooden table. The young major was seated at his desk. He had been reading aloud from a letter, but stopped short as Norman halted at the door and tapped before coming in. Two other officers stood, in low-toned chat, behind the colonel, one a captain of cavalry, the other—lieutenant Malloy, and at sight of the latter Norman Holt's heart gave a sudden throb of warning.

"Come in," said the colonel, and without another word sat studying the pale features of the young soldier who entered, saluted and stood attention before him. At last he spoke:

"Corporal Holt, I understand you know every path and by-road beyond Hardin Hills and can easily lead through Shelby's Gap, even of a dark night. That is so, is it not?"

For a moment the silence was painful. The young soldier's lips moved. He seemed striving to swallow something before he could speak. His voice choked as he finally answered:

"Yes, sir."

"Then report to Captain Wing for duty at once. He will furnish you with a horse. You will see to it that the squadron is guided to reach the point he mentions before daybreak. And, now, not a word of it to anybody."

CHAPTER VII.

It was midnight as the little column toiled up the winding trail that led to the gap. The waning moon had climbed half way toward the zenith. The gay laugh and jest with which the troopers rode away had long since hushed. Men spoke only at rare intervals, and in low and muttered tone when they spoke at all, for little by little it had dawned upon the squadron that this was no mere holiday ride. They were striking through what had been for weeks past a barrier through a new, uncertain, unknown, inhospitable region, where armed rebellion rode at will, influenced by powerful citizens like the Holts and Homans. Foraging and scouting parties were frequent from the divisions of Buckner and Zollicoffer, the one entrenched at Bowling Green at the southwest, but covering the fords and bridges of the Green river, the other encamped near Mill Spring on the Cumberland, southeastward, both stirring up the country for miles. Union camps lay east of Belleview, anywhere from 30 to 40 miles distant, but, thanks to the curtaining range of the Hardins, all main traveled roads, save the far-sweeping pike, left Belleview to the south, independent in having its own spur to the Nashville railway.

When the signal was given to halt and dismount and the head of column reached the summit of the pass, and Wing, with his first lieutenant and the tall, smooth-faced young fellow who rode as guide, climbed the hillside to the east, the troopers huddled in little knots and talked in muffled tones. And in one of these low muttering groups the question was asked, "Who is the fellow riding with 'Cap' to-night?" The average American hates to say captain. It sounds too civil—too subservient.

He hardly knew himself. Like one in some weird, almost terrible dream, the young Kentuckian sat in saddle on the captain's left, and, indicating the road by a mere turn of the head or a brief word, gave himself up to painful thought. With all his sad experiences, with all his grief at the loss of his father's love and trust, the loss of home and friends and station, never until this night had Norman Holt begun to realize what it meant to take sides against his own kith and kin. Never had it dawned upon him as a possibility that he might be called upon to use his knowledge of his native state and county in guiding to the hearthstones of his life-long friends and neighbors a column that could come only with hostile intent. What did it mean? They must reach Belleview before dawn. He had only four hours yet in which to make it. His anxiety was not on that score, but—what sought the column there? Only the servants were at home, as he believed. The darkies, of course, still hung about the quarters, and were with difficulty prevented from infesting the house itself. "Aunt Mary," Mrs. Preston, at her brother's advice, had taken most of her belongings and gone to the roof of her late husband's kindred in far New Orleans. All the men who "amounted to shucks," as the townsfolk put it, had ridden to Buckner's camp. And now something or somebody was to be looked up in that neighborhood, which or whom the Union generals greatly wanted, and Wing, one of the brainiest and best officers of the mounted service yet found in Kentucky, was chosen to go in search, and go with only his own squadron. This meant that there could be no heavy force in that neighborhood, but it might be just one man whose capture was desired, and what man, asked Norman, would be so eagerly welcomed a prisoner as his high-spirited, hot-headed and most influential old father? Could it be that it had become his lot to guide these alien troopers in an attack on his own old home—to indignity—to assault perhaps, on that honored father's person?

Well he knew to whose malign influence he owed this detail! Well he remembered the drive from Belleview to Bardstown, and bitterly he recalled the search for the lost pair in the Buford woods. Vividly, too, he recalled the question so significantly asked, and guilelessly answered, as to his ability to follow any of these homeward trails, no matter how dark the night. Who but Malloy could have volunteered the information that resulted in this most distressing duty?

Gruffly Wing had asked if there was a point on the range from which the country toward Belleview could be scanned. Holt as briefly answered: "A hill just to the left of the road—at the top of the pass."

"Tell me where to halt the column and lead me up there."

And now, just after twelve, on this still December night, three men, two in cavalry undress, the third in coarse, ill-fitting contract garments, and all muffled in the blue overcoat of the line, stood gazing southward over a black void. Above was spread an almost cloudless, spangled sky. Beneath lay a plain, apparently dark, unmeasured, unrelieved by the twinkle of a single light. For a few moments the two officers swept with fieldglasses the southern horizon, as though in hopes of finding a farm or cot-tage window illuminated, but all was dark as the grave. Finally the captain turned upon the silent guide.

"About which way is Belleview from here?"

Holt glanced aloft at the stars, then pointed east of south. "Off yonder," he said.

"Then from here on we'll send forward a little advance guard," said Wing to his senior lieutenant. "I shall have to ride with them, and you keep half a dozen men strung out between the advance and the squadron, so that we'll be not losing touch and getting off the road." Then he turned to Holt. "How soon can we reach Belleview, going at steady gait?"

Norman felt the chill of apprehension closing on his heart again. Home, home, his own dearly loved old home, the objective point, and he the guide! It told on his very words and voice when at last he answered. Just as when interrogated by the colonel at the railway hours back, he seemed to be choking before he could speak at all.

"Belleview is a mile beyond the town. The pike runs through Asholt, P. O., and the house without going through it own would take a two-mile detour—but there's no one there at Belleview but the overseer and the negroes."

"How do you know?" sharply queried the captain, whirling on the speaker. Then, as though recollecting himself, he coldly broke in on the soldier's answer, and, without listening, abruptly silenced him. "However, you can't know. Mount and take the lead. Come on, Fanning!" he added, to his subaltern, as he went sliding down the steep, grassy slope. And Norman followed as one in a daze.

At last they emerged from the narrow, cross-country lane and turned southward on the broad turnpike, stretching away like a dull, white ribbon in the dim fairy light, through the fringing wall of lofty trees. And now at last he had made up his mind. He could silently bear the suspense no longer. A sergeant and three men were sent forward with orders to follow the highway, but to ride no faster than a brisk walk. It was after two o'clock. They must be at the designated spot by 4:30 a. m. at latest, and Norman spoke. "Captain Wing," said he, "I am the son of Dr. Holt, the owner of Bellevue. Do you think the colonel knew, when he picked me out to guide you, that such was the case?"

The captain impressively put his right hand on his pistol butt as he placidly answered: "He knew that, and I know more, sir. It will go hard with you if this scout fail of its purpose."

CHAPTER VIII.

"Four o'clock by the watch," muttered Wing to his senior subaltern, as the squadron halted and dismounted to rest the horses and reset saddles, "and we haven't seen a spark or heard a sound. The town is hardly a mile ahead." The lieutenant nodded, but said no word.

Wing had been assured by the colonel commanding at Bardstown that Belleview was at this moment entertaining three prominent officers of the Confederate army, one of whom had come thither under the instructions of Albert Sidney Johnston himself, and that Dr. Holt was at home and keeping open house again for Christmastide, at least, safe as he supposed, behind the curtain of the Hardin hills. Wing had been furnished with a guide who knew the country by heart, who had been cast off by his family and connections, "not because of the war, but previous misdemeanors," said the colonel, "and the young fellow is not unwilling to turn upon those who had spurned him." Wing started with the highest hopes of success and a low opinion of Holt. He had conceived it to be a wise plan to let the young man know he was not looked upon with favor, that he meant to hold him responsible if things went amiss.

He had found his aversion to the young soldier waning as he noted his quiet, sad, dignified bearing. He had begun to believe there might be two sides to this as to other stories, and still, had he not been warned by the colonel that there was reason to doubt the young man's loyalty? Had not Malloy intimated even more? He had spoken his thinly veiled threat in a moment of impulse, and regretted it almost before the words were off his tongue. It seemed to his inner and better self such a brutal thing, even in war time, to bully a man who could not hit back. Even in the darkness he felt, though he could not see, the pallor deepen on the young soldier's face. He could not fail to note the choke in the utterance, the tremor in the voice, when at last Norman Holt found words, and his sense of burning wrong and injustice was given vent. It was only by supreme effort that he remembered the rigorous teachings of three years at the Point, and controlled his temper.

"As I have no idea of the object, Captain Wing, I should not know whether it has failed or not. But no threats are necessary. Although no man in this army has been more a sufferer than I for doing a soldier's duty, yet I shall continue to do it." With that he turned away, leaving Wing to feel the blood climbing to his weather-beaten cheeks. There was rebuke, deserved rebuke, in the soldier's tone, manner and words. He spoke like a gentleman, and Wing had spoken like a brute.

By the time four o'clock came, and the spire of a church or two and the wooden cupola of the inevitable court-house could be dimly discerned against the southward sky, and the squadron dismounted to rest while the captain, his guide and a brace of troopers stole softly forward to reconnoiter, Wing was wishing he had bitten his tongue before speaking harshly to a man placed as was the soldier son of a gallant, dismembered, unhappy state. Almost was he wishing that to some other squadron leader had fallen the detail, for in answer to a plain question, Holt had said he had reason to know that his father had left Belleview some weeks before, intending not to return. He did not say that which for a moment was trembling on his tongue—that if his father were there the squadron would not be—until broad daylight. Back where the men were resting by the roadside a cross-country track intersected the pike. Follow that either eastward or westward a mile or so, and a southerly trending country road could be found that would take the command clear around the once lively little town and enable it to enter Belleview, and it was when they reached this cross road that the guide had reined in and coolly said: "Is it your wish to approach Belleview from the east or the west, sir?"

"It is my wish to surround it," said Wing. "Perhaps the west would be the better. We could then cut off anybody attempting to gallop away toward Buckner's pickets."

Halted close to the northern skirts of the town, with farms and barn buildings on both sides of the pike, the four sat in the saddle and listened.

The night was still, cold and sparkling. A light snow had apparently been sifting down during the day, for the fields now spread out before them white and fleecy. All about the village was seemingly peaceful and wrapped in slumber. Up to the north, the way they came, watchdogs were still barking, for farms lay thick along the highway south of the range, but Asholt dogs were, less alert or suspicious. Captain Wing seemed surprised, even uneasy. "I half expected to find cavalry vedettes by this time," said he. "They surely would have them out if the town were occupied."

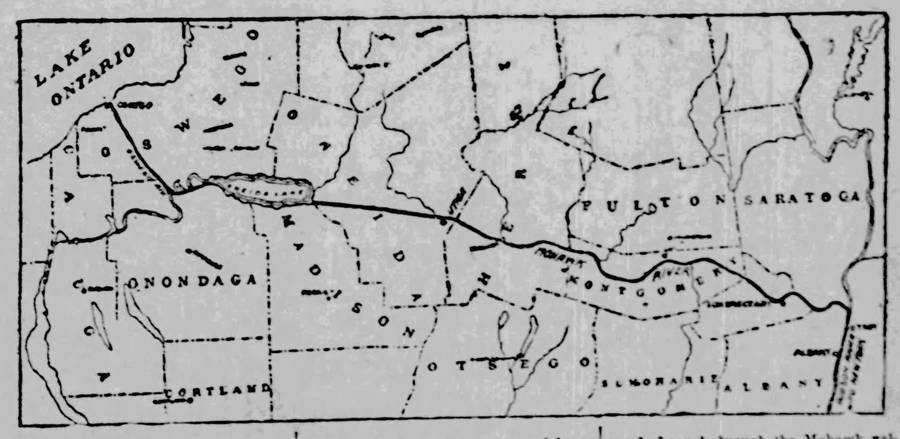
"One would think so," was the non-committal answer, and then one of the attendant troopers turned suddenly in saddle and held up a warning hand. From under a clump of timber that stood by the roadside not more than a hundred yards ahead and close to the roadside, there came the loud, challenging neigh of a tethered horse, and instantly Wing's horse, forward, gripped with gauntleted hand the nostrils of his charger, and signalled to his party to do the same. One trooper, a trifle slow or clumsy, failed, for an answering neigh had suddenly begun and then was as suddenly choked. Then over among a bunch of farm buildings, east of the highway, a mastiff lifted up a powerful voice and bowwowed loud and long. Then there were sounds of stamping hoofs down closer to the edge of town, and next—all four plainly saw it—a tiny light flickered and flared a minute under the trees, revealing dimly the shapes of two saddled horses, then as suddenly blew out. Somebody, possibly to consult a watch, had struck a light. "That's a cavalry picket sure as death," whispered a trooper excitedly, but Wing turned on his guide.

"Do you know who they are—or from where?" he muttered, in eager question.

"No," was the low, prompt answer.

"Back to the squadron," ordered Wing, in a whisper. "No noise now," he added. And not until well out of earshot was the pace quickened. Yet, despite precaution, one iron-shod hoof struck asslant up-

ROUTE OF CANAL FROM GREAT LAKES TO ATLANTIC.



Chicago shippers are pleased with the suggestions of the deep water way commission, whose report on the construction of a canal from the great lakes to tidewater has been sent to congress, says the Chicago Chronicle. It is regarded as the first step toward the realization of the commercial interests of the western country. The construction of a great channel through which vessels can pass from the great lakes to the open seas, and freights be taken direct to European ports has long been a cherished idea of the shippers in the cities of the inland lakes. Ever since the experts of the United States have been finding a partial way over the inland seas, the men of commerce and of manufacture have been hoping for the coming of the day when the grain and manufactured products of the western states might go direct from the port of clearance to the ports of entry across the ocean.

Chicago's interest in the projected canal is greater than that of any other city on the lakes, by reason of the fact that the grain of the western states passes through this city on its way to the markets of the world.

The problem of grain shipping to Europe has been one that has engaged the attention of Chicago men for some years. Despite the cheapness of the water route to Buffalo, only one-fifth of the total grain passing through Chicago to the east and Europe goes in lake steamers. The delay and cost of reloading has given the railroads an advantage over the lake carriers, but this advantage would be wiped out if the proposed channel through the Mohawk valley was constructed.

The special commission named by the President estimates that the total tonnage through a 21-foot channel would amount to 36,000,000 tons a year. Of this amount, Chicago would furnish for export alone 6,000,000 tons, and as much in imports, and thus one-third of the total estimated tonnage would be originated or be discharged at this end of the lakes.

During the past year the tonnage of grain from Chicago by the lakes has been 2,000,000 tons, while by rail it has been 1,000,000 tons. Over half of the rail tonnage would be deflected to the lakes for export trade, and a million or two of other tonnage would take the all-water route to Europe.

on a stone, and, as though from flint and steel, a spark flew into space, and Towser's angry yow-yow redoubled. "Those fellows at the roadside must have seen it," muttered Wing. "Trot! Ride ahead orderly. Tell the first lieutenant to mount and lead the squadron into the cross road to the west—to the west, do you hear? We'll overtake them later. Halt, now, you other two. We've got to stay here and drive 'em back if any of them come sneaking out to see who we are. Rein out to the right and left—off the road—and keep quiet."

For a moment the only sound along the highway was the dull thud of the orderly's hoofbeats as he trotted swiftly away. Even that was partly drowned by the clamor of the mastiff now scouting the field toward the fence. Norman, silent and stern reined round behind the captain as though to confront possible comers. He was right. The picket was aroused, and two shadowy forms of riders were soon seen coming cautiously up the pike. Presently voices were faintly audible and the waiting trio sat with bated breath, the captain with his revolver drawn.

"I tell you I saw the spark and heard the hoof beat," a low, yet excited voice was saying. "Some fella came down 'long hyuh just to spy and see who we were."

"Well, he's gone now, and we're not supposed to follow single spies all over Kaintuck. I'm goin' back," was the impatient answer, in a whang Norman Holt could have recognized the world over. It was the voice of a hostler who had cared for his father's horses a hundred times at the old southern inn. The other voice was that of a stranger.

"Go back if you want to," was the retort. "I don't go till I know more about what was out hyuh. You tell the boys to watch out 'n case I want 'em."

But the stableman would not even ride back alone.

"Th' ain't anybody out this way," said he, "'cep some of our fellas scoutin'. Come back, I tell yuh!" And Asholt's unstable soldiery was obviously demoralized by the mystic terrors of the dark.

"By heaven!" muttered Wing, between his set teeth, half turning to his silent guide. "If we could only nab these two, without noise, we could find out everything we need to know—and then you wouldn't have to guide."

Again the hostler spoke:

"Like as not it's some fella outen' the colonel's escort been to see his folks an' come around the long way from Belleview."

By this time the squadron could be in saddle and filing off the pike into the crossroads, thought Capt. Wing. Surely! for now the barks of half a dozen dogs burst upon the ear, and the stranger of the two approaching horsemen impatiently shook his rein and touched spur to his mount. "I must see what's going on to make all that row," said he, and fearlessly cantered ahead, deaf to the entreaties of the hostler who, reining to a halt, gazed after him in dismay—gazed only a minute, for all on a sudden a revolver was poked in his face, and a stern voice muttered: "Not a sound, and you're mine, captain," and by his side, his heart throbbing like mad, Norman Holt, silent still, yet sustained by a wild excitement as they whirled into the saddle at the regular trot, waited no more, as the leaders rounded a gravelly curve. Norman's straining eyes were greeted by a sight that wrung from him a low cry of dismay—almost of terror. One window in the farmyard side, dimly lighted, the window of his father's room. It was the signal never set except to tell the wanderer or the needy that the master was at home and the latchstring out. He had guided his father's enemies to that beloved father's capture after all! And this—this was the dawn of Christmas day!

Loud rose the clash and clatter of twice an hundred hoofs, as the column swept rapidly round the drive. Then loud and clear rang out the captain's spirited orders. "Move right on, lads. Circle the house—surround it on every side. Mr. Wood, gallop to the stables and nab the guard before they can be out!"

But now came a most unlooked for welcome. All on a sudden from four lower windows rang out the report of carbines, and one poor trooper, with a yell of agony, clapped hand to his side and plunged headlong out of the saddle. A snorting, riderless horse went tearing round the lawn. From other windows poured other shots, some of revolvers. Laughing with disappointment the captain leaped from his saddle, shouted for a dozen men to follow him and rushed for the massive door of the mansion. They might as well have kicked at a stone wall, and what with matters worse, carbines were now blazing at every window. From some point within the besieged were able to land a few shots among the besiegers, swarming dozen at the captain's back, and two more troopers went down, pale and groaning. "Try the rear door! Come on!" yelled Wing, and led the dash round to the back of the Scottsbridge house, where they met with what at first seemed better success. With a beam for a battering ram, they burst in the flimsy door and found themselves groping in a pitch-dark hallway, a veritable pit of death and firing, raging, ordered his men back until they could get a light. Meantime the shouts and shots were redoubled, but with no appreciable effect on the besieged. Three or four of the guard, caught with the horses at the stable, had surrendered to superior force, but most of them were already inside the mansion, and the troopers who strove to force door or casement did it at their peril.

All this while, as though in a daze, hardly knowing what he did, hardly crediting the evidence of his senses, Norman Holt, flinging himself from saddle, was peering in a little chink of shrubbery within the encircling driveway. He listened to the wild shouts, the rapid shots of the besiegers and noted the cool, steady response on part of the besieged. He heard Wing's voice shouting imprecations [illegible] orders at the rear of the house. A soldier with a carbine rushed past him, knelt and took aim at the second window from the main doorway, pulled trigger and fired and Norman saw him begin to reload the ill-balanced, almost obsolete weapon, then suddenly drop it, clap his hands over his abdomen, stagger blindly into the little patch of trees and sink down in a misery almost at his feet. Then in a frenzy of grief and rage Norman heard his own name shouted from lip to lip. "Holt wanted! Holt wanted! Where's Holt? Captain wants Holt at the back of the house! Quick!" but he stood rooted to the spot. Even for the love of the flag he could not lift hand against his father in that father's house. Up went the shout again, and a sergeant came running in search of the shrinking guide, but halted short and stood with hand to his ear, listening. Only for a second or two, for he rushed into the open with a yell that was heard all over the front of the place.

"Mount! Mount! Lively! A hull regiment's comin'! Get the captain's horse to him, quick!" he shouted to the orderly left in charge as he sprang into saddle. Here, there, everywhere now, darting through the shrubbery, men were rushing for their startled, snorting chargers. Up the road toward town rose the tantarara of the trumpets. "Mount, you, or you're a goner!" yelled an officer in Norman's ear. Then, recognized him, and, with still a louder shout, cried out, "Here's the guide, men! Here's the guide! Now you! You led us into this scrape, damn you! Lead us out, quick, and the safest way!" This time a hot muzzle well nigh burned the soldier's skin, for Fanning had laid his revolver on Norman's throbbing temple.

(To Be Continued.)

Recent Literature.

Readers desiring any further information whatever about these volumes will please address the publishers, whose address is given in every case, and not inquire of The Blade. We do not deal in books.

From L. C. Page & Co., 212 Summer st., Boston:

The Flame of Life, by Gabriel d' Annunzio, is a characteristic story of that Italian writer. It tells the depths to which a man may be dragged by an unholy love.

Chums, by Maria Louise Pool, is a boarding-school story, for girls, and a most excellent, clean and readable book.

Winifred is by S. Baring-Gould, the English writer, and is a dramatic tale of the old smuggling times.

Punchinello, by Florence Stuart, is the love story of a hunchbacked man—a pathetic and powerful story of a century ago in England.

The Wallet of Kai Lung is the first book of a new writer, Ernest Bramah, and deals with Chinese social life. It is quaint and readable.

From Harper & Bros., Franklin Square, New York:

The Cardinal's Rose is the story of a New York newspaper man who fell in love with a girl's face in a cinematograph picture, and who started out to find her. It is an exciting, well-told story.

The Slaves of Society is a story of English high life of the present day, by an anonymous writer. It is an interesting tale.

Lessons in Love, by Katrina Trask, is a collection of stories, each a pretty lesson in the tender passion.

A new edition of Vesty of the Basins, by Sarah P. McLean Greene, shows the popularity of this excellent American novel.

From J. B. Lippincott Co., Philadelphia.

The Cruise of the Pretty Polly, a sea tale by W. Clark Russell, is a story of four boys whose fathers sent them to sea to win health and vigor. Boys will like it immensely.

From The Macmillan Co., 66 Fifth ave., New York:

The Life and Death of Richard Yea and Nay, by Maurice Hewlett, is a tale of the Crusaders. It is very interesting, full of the wild doings of that romantic age.

Foes in Law, by Rhoda Broughton, is a bright story of a young matron who had "a way with her," and quite interesting.

From Rand, McNally & Co., Chicago:

In the Alamo, by Opie Read, is a modern romance of love and politics, with the old Texan mission as its background. It is a well-told story.

From R. F. Fenno & Co., 9 East 16th st., New York:

With Ring of Shield, by Knox Magee, is a tale of court life and adventure told by a knight of the time of Richard III. It is a good historical novel.

From Houghton, Mifflin & Co., Boston:

Mountain Playmates, by Helen R. Albee, is the story of an abandoned farm in New Hampshire—or rather of a family who made it a modern home. Fresh, breezy and wholesome.

From D. Appleton & Co., 72 Fifth avenue, New York:

Cupid's Garden is a volume of short stories by Ellen Thornycroft Fowler. They are all love tales, and all readable.

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HUMOROUS SQUIBS.

"When does a man become a seamstress?"

"When he hems and haws."

"No."

"When he threads his way."

"No."

"When he rips and tears."

"No."

"Give it up."

"Never, if he can help it."—Boston Christian Register.

"Excuse me, sir," said the man in the next seat, "but your cigar is burning a hole in your paper."

"That is all right," responded the other, "I am just burning out the price of those electric seats at to-morrow's bargain sale. You see, I take this paper home."—Philadelphia Record.

"I thought you said you never again would elect her president of your club," the suggested, after she had told him all about the result of the club election.

"Well, we didn't intend to," she replied, "but when she broke down and cried we just couldn't help it."—The Smart Set.

Casey—I wonder whol they call thet drink "absint?"

O'Rourke—Take three or four, an ye'll be sayin' to the wurrid. Tet's whot."—Ohio State Journal.

"I wanted to go out shopping to-day," sighed young Mrs. Maddox. "but I couldn't on account of the rain."

"Wanted to get out something for nothing, as usual I suppose," said her husband, attempting to be facetious.

"Well, I did think of getting you some neckwear," replied Mrs. Maddox, innocently.—Chicago Tribune.

Teacher—And why should we endeavor to rise by our own efforts?

Johnnie Wise—'Cause there's no tellin' when the alarm clock will go wrong.—Baltimore American.

"Is that a thrilling, sensational novel, Dolly?"

"Oh, Polly, I was reading it in the street car and got my pocket picked."—Indianapolis Journal.

Hopeless Woman.

Mrs. Shears—Oh, dear, how the wind does blow!

Mr. Shears—My dear, did you ever know the wind to do anything else but blow?

"But the other day you said the rain came right down. Did you ever know the rain to go right up?"

"That's quite another thing. Just like a woman! Never can stick to the question under discussion."—Boston Transcript.

Rheumatism

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It is sometimes so bad as wholly to disable, and it should never be neglected.

Elsie B. Kirk, Box 247, Montezuma, Iowa, had it in her hips and limbs so that she could not sleep; Mrs. Hattie Turner, Bolivar, Mo., had it so severely she could not lift anything and could scarcely get up or down stairs; W. H. Shepard, Sandy Hook, Conn., was laid up with it, was cold even in July, and could not dress himself.

According to testimonials voluntarily given, these sufferers were permanently relieved, as thousands have been, by

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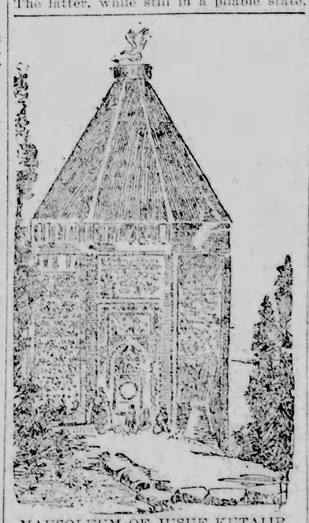
VALUABLE MOSAICS IN AN OLD TOMB

A German archaeologist, Professor Jacobsthal, has just returned to Berlin from an expedition into Asia Minor, where for eighteen months he has been engaged in researches along the lines in which he is most particularly interested. He spent most of his time in eastern Armenia, in the valley of the Aras. In a lecture recently delivered in Berlin the professor says that but two of the ancient monuments in eastern Armenia are still in existence and these two are of such artifical work that one cannot find its equal in any part of Asia Minor. The smaller one of the monuments used to be the mausoleum of Jusuf Ibu Kutaijr, and according to well-preserved inscription was built in 1162. It is an octagonal building, some twenty-six feet in diameter and about thirty-four feet high up to the roof. The whole exterior walls of these two monuments consist of the most skillfully made mosaic; the various brilliant colors of the tiles and stones are well preserved. Both monuments are of brick masonry. The tiles are fixed upon a white, extraordinarily hard layer of clay, and many of them have been colored with copper. Professor Jacobsthal says that the magnificent mosaics of these mausoleums resemble in many peculiarities those found on old buildings near Venice and other places in Italy. The mosaics were made in the following way: By nailing thin wooden boards on their edges to the bottom of a wooden case, small narrow channels formed whereby the patterns were indicated. In these channels were placed the stones and tiles, while the space between them was filled with a kind of plaster. The latter, while still in a pliable state,



MAUSOLEUM OF JUSUF KUTAIJR.

was ornamented by carvings. Professor Jacobsthal stated that the ancient Armenians must have been genuine masters in their work, for the mosaic of these two monuments is unexcelled anywhere. One of the structures bears an inscription naming Hageu Ibu Bekr from Nachtchewan its builder. In many respects, the professor says, these structures also resemble the old Andalusian churches in Spain and calls to mind the fact that during the reign of Richard the Good (996-1076) quite a number of Armenian scientists assembled at this Normanic court.

A NEW COPHETUA.

The heir of the gilded household had just proposed to the pretty kitchen maid. She regarded him with a steady glance as she polished off her rounded arms with a coarse towel.

"I must have every Thursday out," she said.

"Yes," he murmured.

"And every Sunday afternoon."

"Yes."

"And every night as soon as the dinner things are done up."

"Yes-s."

"How many in family?"

"Only you and I."

"Any children?"

"N-n-no."

"Much company?"

"Very little."

"Any furnace to tend?"

"No."

"Hired man to do all the outside work?"

"Yes."

"What make of piano do you use?"

"The Bangaway."

"Let me think. Ah, yes. I shall insist upon having the breakfast room to receive my beaux in."

"Well, by thunder, you don't get it!" cried the gilded heir as he turned and stalked away.

So the maid haughtily rolled up her sleeves again and went back to her work.

The "Other Fellow" Saved Him.

Wife (severely)—What does this mean, sir? Do you know the time?

Husband—Yesh, m' dear. I was (hic' 'tained m' dear, by fearf'l exsherdent.

Wife (alarmed and growing suddenly sympathetic)—Accident? Good gracious, George! Are you much hurt?

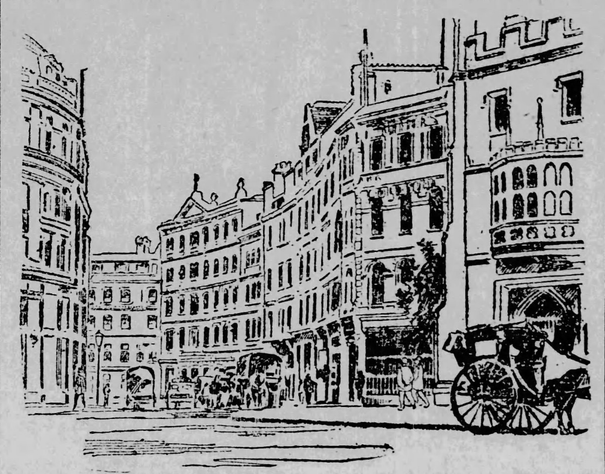
Husband—No, m' dear, fort'nat'ly (hic) not. Axsherdent happ'n'd t' other f'l'r (hic).—Pick-Me-Up.

INVADING GREAT BRITAIN

American Business in London Grows Faster Than English Investments.

When American capitalists, headed by Yerkes, stepped in and bought the charter of a much needed underground railroad that had long existed on paper, and began the actual planning of the road before the ink on the contract was fairly dry, attention was directed more generally than ever before to the fact that the mates, that increase was $65,000,000 up to January 1 last year over the year before.

One result has been the growth of a singular colony in the heart of London—a colony of which no census has been taken and of which not even the American consul general in London can give much information. You reach the center of it by going first to Holborn viaduct. Thence you curve around into Snow hill and St. Sepulchre's church, where rest the bones of Capt. John Smith. This doughty hero of the Pocohontas story, "sometime Governour of Virginia and Admiral of New England," as it says on the brass plate marking his burial place, sleeps at the very gateway of the American business district of London, for in Snow hill and further on in Farringdon street you find firm after firm of Americans, some with big offices and some with only desk room and a shingle, but practically all of them selling an increasing quantity of American goods, and sending home to the main



WHERE SNOW HILL CURVES AWAY FROM HOLBORN VIADUCT. UNDER THE AUSPICES OF ST. SEPULCHRE'S CHURCH.

increase in American capital invested in London is out of all proportion to the increase in English capital invested in London. At the present rate it will not be long before Lombard street begins to reckon its dividends in dollars for convenience sake, says Curtis Brown in a London letter.

And every such investment of American money brings in its train big new markets for American machinery; for instance a large part of the appliances and fittings for the new Yerkes railway, on which $20,000,000 will be spent, will come from the United States.

The increase in American trade in Great Britain has been as rapid of late as the increase of American investment here. According to the British esti-

office across the Atlantic an increasing quantity of British pounds, shillings and pence.

The London branch of the American business house is comparatively a recent institution. It is safe to say that as many such houses were opened in London in the last three or four years as had been established here in all previous years put together. Although most of them follow that mysterious law of attraction which pulls similar kinds of business together into one locality, they have not been here long enough to have much knowledge of or interest in on another.

Though there are always from 40,000 to 60,000 Americans in London, there is no American exchange here, nor any immediate likelihood of one.

AN EMBARRASSING MISTAKE FOR THE MAN

A Cleveland man made a sad mistake the other day and it taught him a lesson that he will long remember. He was in Detroit and went down to the railway station to take the train for Cleveland in company with a friend—also a Cleveland man. The man who made the mistake called the attention of his friend to the fact that a comic opera troupe was going by the same train.

"There are a lot of pretty girls in the company," he said.

"All right," laughed the friend. "I'll stroll through the train and have a look at them."

The friend entered the chair car and the man who made the mistake strolled forward into the smoker. He stayed there for some little time and then thought he'd go back and look up his friend. He found him presently. He was seated beside a handsomely dressed lady of attractive appearance, and the pair were engaged in an animated conversation.

The man who made the mistake was a good deal astonished. He paused in the aisle and extended his hand.

"Well," he said. "I may not see you when we reach Cleveland—so goodby."

"Goodby," said the friend.

"You seem to be booked for a pleasant journey," said the man who made the mistake—and he slyly smiled.

"Oh, yes," said the friend.

The man who made the mistake felt a little nettled. His friend might at least have introduced him to the lady. So he reached over as his turned to retire, and, patting the friend on the shoulder, said: "Well, you are a lucky dog!"

He noticed that the friend frowned and the lady looked surprised. Then he hurried up the aisle with a broad smile on his face.

A day or two later he met the friend on the street.

"Say," the friend remarked, "I suppose you thought that lady who happened to be on the Detroit train with us was a member of the comic opera troupe to which you called my attention."

"Why, yes—wasn't she?"

"Thunder, no! She's my next door neighbor and my wife's most intimate acquaintance!"

The jaw of the man who made the mistake suddenly dropped.

"Holy smoke!" he murmured; "what did she think of me?"

"Well," said the friend, "I explained it to her and she thought it was quite too good a joke to keep. I think so, too."

And this accounts for the fact that the story is in circulation.—Cleveland Plain Dealer.

The Mistakes of the Sex.

After a recent election out in Colorado, where they have woman suffrage, the tellers found a dozen cookery recipes in a ballot box, voted by mistake. There is no case on record, it is believed, where a man has voted a pool check or a poker chip.—Pittsburg News.

CHILDREN SHOWED IT.

Effect of Their Warm Drink in the Morning.

"A year ago I was a wreck from coffee drinking and was on the point of giving up my position in the school room because of my excessive nervousness.

"I was telling a friend about it and she said, 'we drink nothing at meal time but Postum Food Coffee, and it is such a comfort to have something we can enjoy drinking with the children.'

"I was astonished that she would allow the children to drink any kind of coffee, but she said Postum was the most healthful drink in the world for children as well as for older ones, and that the condition of both the children and adults showed that to be a fact.

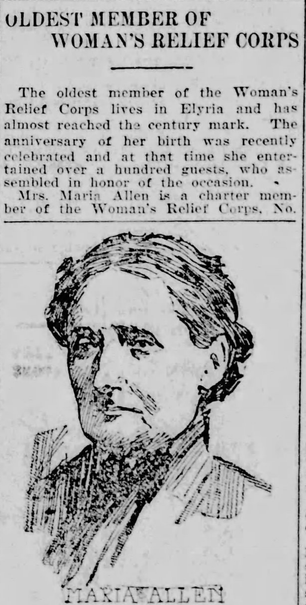
"Just a little thought convinced me that one should not take a stimulant such as coffee, but really should have the best food to nourish the brain and nerves and that nourishment was found in Postum.

"My first trial was a failure. The cook boiled it four or five minutes and it tasted so flat that I was in despair, but determined to give it one more trial. This time we followed the directions and boiled it fifteen minutes, after the boiling began. It was a decided success and I was completely won by its rich, delicious flavor. In a short time I noticed a decided improvement in my condition and kept growing better and better month after month, until now I am perfectly healthy, and do my work in the school room with ease and pleasure. I would not return to the nerve-destroying regular coffee for any money."—I. Scott, Warrensburg, Mo.

OLDEST MEMBER OF WOMAN'S RELIEF CORPS

The oldest member of the Woman's Relief Corps lives in Elyria and has almost reached the century mark. The anniversary of her birth was recently celebrated and at that time she entertained over a hundred guests, who assembled in honor of the occasion.

Mrs. Maria Allen is a charter member of the Woman's Relief Corps, No.



MARIA ALLEN

208. She was born in Bergen county, New Jersey, and at the age of thirty-one, with her husband and five sons, came to Ohio in a lumber wagon. The family settled at Bucyrus and in 1833 moved to Elyria. Her five boys went to sea, and one them served in the Mexican and three in the civil war. Her husband died twelve years ago.

Mrs. Allen is still in excellent health and takes an interest in all important events of the day. On the last election night she refused to go to sleep until the returns clearly showed that President McKinley had been re-elected.

—Rheumatism in all its forms is promptly and permanently cured by Hood's Sarsaparilla, which neutralizes acidity of the blood.

COULDN'T FIND JUDGE, JURY OR DEFENDANT

About three miles from the town I came upon a man seated on a log by the roadside, says the Pittsburg Post. His chin was resting in his hands, his shotgun leaned up against a tree, and he was so busy with his thoughts that he did not see or hear me until I rode up and saluted. Seeing that something was wrong with him, I asked the cause, and he got up and came out to me and replied:

"Stranger, I've bin hevin' a lawsuit and got beat."

"And you ought to have won?"

"I had. The case was as clar as noonday. I sold a heifer a muvil fur $40, and he paid me $25 down and bucked the balance. I orter had a verdict as suah as shootin'."

"Well, the law is uncertain."

"I reckon it is. The suit was decided agin me yisterday. I went home and got my gun and was back in town the fust thing this mawnin', but he had gone."

"Who?"

"The defendant. Couldn't find hide nor hair of him. The jedge was also gone. So was the jury. So was the defendant's lawyer. Dear 'em, but they all slipped out and didn't give me no show!"

"No show for what?"

"Why, what did I go after my gun fur? What's she loaded with buckshot fur? What am I a-feelin' so cast down and broken up about? I was gwine to shute, of co'se, but they wouldn't wait!"

"Well, you shouldn't take it so to heart," I said, hoping to console him a bit.

"It's powerful tuff, fur I was dead right about it," he answered as he looked up the road, "but that's one little gleam of hope left. The lawyer who had my case is comin' along this way this even, and I'm gwine to hold him under that shotgun till he hands me over the $10 I paid him to talk fur me! Dog-gone it, but I hain't a-gwine to let the hull bilin' lot o' 'em git clar off without gittin' a shot in 'em somebody! Tain't human natur' and it hain't in the laws of the sov'rign state of Arkansas that I should."

Pardonable Curiosity.

Little Willie—How tall are you, Mr. Flushing?

Mr. Flushing—About 5 feet 9 inches, Willie.

Little Willie—And how tall were you last summer?

Mr. Flushing—Why, just about the same height. Why do you ask, Willie?

Little Willie (puzzled)—Why, because I heard papa say you were a great deal shorter this winter than you were last summer.

HYOMEI

The Remedy that Cures

Coughs and Colds

IN ONE NIGHT.

The Remedy that Cures

Catarrh and Bronchitis

by inhaling four times daily.

The Remedy that Cures

Consumption

by breathing it for ten minutes every hour.

IT IS GUARANTEED.

Sold by all druggists, or sent by mail. Outfit Complete, $1.00. Trial Outfit 25c.

Send for five days' treatment and medical advice free.

THE R. T. BOOTH CO., Washington St., Ithaca, N. Y.

The Farmstead.

INQUIRIES ANSWERED.

Spavin and Wind Galls.

Editor Farmstead:—In The Blade of November 29 I notice an inquiry for a remedy for spavin on horses; also one concerning wind galls. In either case the horse's legs should be rubbed with cedar oil. This should be applied once a day until the parts get a little sore on the outside, if the swelling does not go down before.—A. J. L., Albion, W. Va.

To Cure Meat.

Editor Farmstead:—You ask in The Blade of December 6 for a recipe from a Western farmer to keep meat. I will send you the one I use, and all my neighbors say I have the best meat they ever ate.

Recipe for 1,000 pounds of meat: 12 quarts of salt, 3 pounds of sugar, 1 pound of pepper, 1 ounce of saltpeter. Dissolve the saltpeter in a quart of boiling water. Then mix the above all together. Next is the way to apply it. The day you butcher lay your meat out on a board or table in your warehouse or shop. Then divide your mixture in halves. Just use the half of it the first day. Take a bit of it and rub over the skin side of the meat, then lay it down on the board and rub a little over the flesh side, and pack in at the end of ham and shoulder-bone. Let the meat lay for three days. Then rub on the half of what you have left or one-fourth of the lot. Then in three days more put on the residue of the mixture, and then in three days your meat is ready to hang up. You can smoke it if you wish. But I prefer to just hang it up and dry it, then put it into muslin sacks. We have used this method in Pennsylvania for years and now are using it in Oregon. We have never lost a piece of meat and never had a bug or skipper in one piece. This recipe gives the meat the finest taste of any in the world.

Yours all over. I am a subscriber of The Blade.—C. J. W., Boyd, Ore.

Foot Evil.

Editor Farmstead:—Foot evil in cattle may be cured by burning the affected part of the hoof with sulphuric acid. The action of the acid may be stopped with hog's lard when the hoof is sufficiently burned.—A. J. L., Albion, W. Va.

The editor wishes the writer would tell how much water should be used to dilute the acid. The latter, undiluted, cannot be applied. It must be very largely diluted.

Three Replies.

Editor Farmstead:—In reply to inquiries in the Farmstead column of The Weekly Blade of December 6:

Tell R. H. R., Lindlow, Vt., to use pulverized burnt alum on the parts. Saturate once or twice daily for two or three days and then let up for one or two days.

Tell C. J. D., of Welcome, Minn., to clean his horse out and grease well two or three times.

Also tell E. F., Indiana, he can get lice out of the stable by saturating the stable floor well with sulphur or carbolic acid, or both, at intervals, or else use some other disinfectant. Do not get the acid about the troughs or mangers.—J. R., Abingdon, Ill.

Worms in Colt—Proud Flesh.

I send my mite, hoping to serve W. M. W., South Knoxville, Tenn., by saying:

Put some green poles of basswood or linn wood in the manger of the wormy colt, letting him eat all the bark he will, and worms will disappear in one or two weeks.

Also if R. H. R., of Lindlow, Vt., will cleanse well the sore on the colt's ankle, dry and dust on pure calomel twice a day for a short time, the proud flesh will disappear and the wound heal. This causes no pain.—Reader, Musselfork, Mo.

White Bits in Butter.

Editor Farmstead:—In reply to E. M. B., of Murdock, Neb., I would say that I have had trouble of the same kind, and my conclusions are that the little, hard, white pieces found in the butter are dried cream, and are troublesome only when the milk stands exposed to the wind or open air.—M. A. F., Mt. Pleasant, Ia.

Keeping Smoked Meat.

Editor Farmstead:—I see an inquiry in the Farmstead of December 4 as to how to keep meat. I will give my way, and I have found it a most excellent one after ten or twelve years' trial; and the person I learned it from had used it for 20 years. It is this: After you have smoked your meat, take pulverized borax, powdered as fine as it can be, put it in a tin box with perforated lid (a pepper box is good), and dust your meat thoroughly on the flesh side, being careful to get the borax in all the creases. Dust until the meat is white with the powder, and you can just hang it back where you smoked it and let it hang, if you like, till it is all gone, and not a bug or skipper or anything of the sort will bother it. The borax is harmless, and keeps the meat sweet and good. Pare off the outside before using it.—L. H. R., Martinsburg, Iowa.

Pround Flesh.

Editor Farmstead:—In looking over The Blade, I saw an inquiry, what will kill proud flesh? stating that a horse was suffering from it. I will say that burnt alum is a sure cure. Take a piece of alum and put it on the hot stovelid, when it will boil up. After it has stopped boiling, pulverize it and have the sores clean and dry. Sprinkle the alum on it, and it will take all the soreness out, and it will heal the sore. I have used it with great success.—H. T. C., Watertown, N. Y.

Spavin Cure.

Editor Farmstead:—If C. H. R. will take 10 drops of chloroform, ten drops oil of n astard and one ounce of alcohol, mix and rub twice a day on the spavin, it will cu e his horse.—Reader, Saginaw, Mich.

Three Useful Hints.

Editor Farmstead:—Here is a remedy for killing all insects that bother cabbage plants, and makes the heads hard and tender: Sprinkle it once or twice a week with one pint of salt and one quart of sifted wood ashes, well mixed.

A teacup of oil of tar mixed with a gallon of salt and left where the sheep can get it whenever they want it is good for distemper.

A tablespoonful of ashes made from hickory wood is good for worms in horses. Give a dose once a day for three days, then skip three.—Reader, Saginaw, Mich.

Fruitless Strawberries.

Editor Farmstead: Your correspondent, whose Sharpless strawberries failed to fruit, did not state what his soil is. I tried the Sharpless on the very sandy soil of Florida and got no berries, while the Wilson and Crescent by the side of them, produced abundantly.—D. S. B., Elizabeth, W. Va.

INQUIRIES.

Bunch on Cow's Jaw.

Editor Farmstead:—Can some reader tell me what ails my cow and what will cure her? There is a bunch on her jaw that seems to have come from the bone. It is about half way in the middle of jawbone. It is as large as a man's fist.—A. B., Plainville, Wis.

Butter Won't Come.

Editor Farmstead:—Our cows were fresh last June, and we made plenty of butter all summer, but when the weather got cold the butter refused to come. They have been on clover for the greater part of the winter, unless the weather was cold when we had them housed. The cream is as thick and rich as ever, but no matter how long we churn, it will not bring butter. Who can tell what is the matter? We set the cream close to the stove, so it can not be too cold. The cows get salt once or twice a week.—O. M., Junction, O.

Snag in Foot.

Editor Farmstead:—I have a mare six years old. One year ago she ran away, and ran a snag into her foot just above the hoof, where the ringbone comes. The snag was taken out, but it left an enlarged place, and has got no larger until the past few days, when it seems to be increasing. After the snag was taken out, it healed up and seemed well. Can some one tell me what to do for it?—Young Farmer, Frankton, Ind.

Food for Cows.

Editor Farmstead:—Who will tell me what is the best food for a cow having a cough?—O. E. G., Strongstown, Pa.

EPIZOOTIC ERGOTISM.

Cornstalk Disease Due to Eating Ergot on the Stalks.

In view of the importance of this question, it seems desirable to append a general statement on the subject of ergot and allied fungi, and their known effects on the animal system, caused by the consumption of cereals affected with ergot. The morbid phenomena produced in those that eat this product are of several different types, according to the condition in which the ergot has been grown, and the condition of the animals fed. The most prominent forms may be thus stated:

First—The nervous form, resulting in convulsions, paralysis or lethagy.

Second—The gangrenous form, resulting in the dry gangrene of the extremities.

Third—The abdominal form, resulting in constipation, impaction of stomach or bowels, and stupor from which nothing will arouse them.

There is at first vertigo and unsteady gait, with a marked disposition to lie down; when down they turn the head in towards the flank and remain so until urged to get up. I find in all these diseases, there is this in common: A poison which acts primarily on the brain, which it reaches through the course of the circulation. The most prominent physiological action of ergot is its power of causing contraction of involuntary muscles. The contraction of the muscles in the walls of the capillary blood vessels, readily explain the stoppage of circulation and death of the parts farthest removed from the heart and where the circulation is the weakest; in cases of dry gangrene, the ergot contains 35 per cent. of bland, yellowish, non-drying, fixed oil; this oil is in the stems of cereals—of hay, grass, straw and stalks.

BARRELS OR BOXES?

Which Shall We Use for Marketing Apples?

I am thoroughly convinced that for the better grade of apples the barrel is doomed, says Prof. Riley in American Gardening. It will not go out of use this year or next, nor by a legislative fiat, but I am convinced that we shall see a gradual increase in the use of boxes. The ordinary kind of apples, as Baldwin and Ben Davis, may perhaps be shipped in barrels to better advantage, at least for the time being, but all good grades of the best apples must eventually come to be sold in smaller packages.

The tendency of trade is toward the small package. The time is not so very far back when peaches were sold in the bulk, but now the finest grades are sold in small baskets, and the buyer takes them home for the dessert. Pears are now sold very largely in kegs or half barrels. In the old days grapes were shipped in barrels in New York state.

The better the fruit, the smaller the package should be, as a rule. One cannot conceive of a customer taking home a barrel of apples under his arm to his wife or his sweetheart.

The temptation to dishonest packing is very much less in the small package. It is impossible for a man to put a bushel of poor apples in the middle of a bushel box. The small package enforces high grading and uniform packing of the product.

It is almost impossible to pack many varieties of apples so snug in a barrel that they will not shake when they reach their destination. This is particularly true if the apples are to be exported.

The small package will tend to induce people to wrap their fruits, especially of the dessert kind. Wrapping of the fruit not only insures the keeping of it, but it also takes up the slack and prevents shaking. Apples which are well wrapped fill a box more rapidly than those which are not, the box does not contain so much fruit.

I am aware that there are many objections to the use of the box, but nevertheless it is bound to come to the fore for the better qualities of fruit.

How Much Will Corn Shrink?

In the fall of 1898 an experiment was undertaken by Professor Atkinson, at the Iowa experiment station, to ascertain the amount of moisture contained in ear corn. A crib was constructed up on the platform of a pair of scales, the scales so constructed that an exact register of the weight could always be made. Seven thousand pounds of corn were husked and placed in the crib October 19, 1898. The crib was 13 1-2 feet long by 7 1-2 feet wide. The corn was then weighed once each week for a year. During the first three months the loss was 230 pounds, or 3 per cent of the original weight. During the next three months, from January 19 to April 19, the loss was 390 pounds, or 5 per cent of the original weight. During the next three months the loss was 220 pounds; during the last three months the loss was 160 pounds. The loss during the full year was 1,430 pounds, or a trifle more than 20 per cent. This means that a bushel of corn weighing 80 pounds when husked like this sample will weigh 64 pounds at the end of the year.

Eggs Flavored by Food.

This question has apparently been settled by Professor F. E. Emery, of the North Carolina Experiment station, who tried feeding onions to hens, with the result that the eggs of all those that ate the onions showed more or less distinct flavor. Therefore it appears that to get fine flavored eggs it is necessary to restrict runs enough so that no considerable amount of the food can be of such a character as to yield ill-flavored eggs.

Cures Weak Men Free

INSURES LOVE AND A HAPPY HOME FOR ALL.

How any man may quickly cure himself after years of suffering from sexual weakness, lost vitality, night losses, varicocele, etc., and enlarge small, weak organs to full size and vigor. Simply send

L. W. KNAPP, M. D.

your name and address to Dr. L. W. Knapp, 1245 Hull Bldg., Detroit, Mich., and he will gladly send the free receipt with full directions so that any man may easily cure himself at home. This is certainly a most generous offer, and the following extracts taken from his daily mail show what men think of his generosity.

"Dear Sir:—Please accept my sincere thanks for yours of recent date. I have given your treatment a thorough test and the benefit has been extraordinary. It has completely braced me up. I am just as vigorous as when a boy, and you cannot realize how glad I am."

"Dear Sir:—Your method worked beautifully. Results were exactly what I needed. Strength and vigor have completely returned and enlargement is entirely satisfactory."

"Dear Sir:—Yours was received and I had no trouble in making use of the receipe as directed and can truthfully say it is a boon to weak men. I am greatly improved in size, strength and vigor."

All correspondence is strictly confidential, mailed in plain sealed envelope. The receipe is free for the asking, and he wants every man to have it.

PATENTS.

PATENTS R. S. & A. B. LACEY Patent Attorneys, Washington, D.C. Examination and opinion as to patentability and Hand Book FREE. 31 years' experience.

AGENTS WANTED.

AGENTS Wanted—Good pay; work at home or canvassing. Compound Supply Co., Manchester, Ga.

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$3 a Day Sure Send for our catalogue and full particulars of the best paying business in the world for agents. Furnish the work and teach you free. You work in the locality where you live. Send us your address and we will explain the business fully; remember we guarantee a clear profit of $3 for every day's work, absolutely sure. Write us at once. ROYAL MANUFACTURING CO., Box 215, Detroit, Mich.

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I Can Sell Your Farm or country property no matter where located. Send description and selling price, and learn my successful plan. W. M. Ostrander, 1215 Filbert St., Phila., Pa.

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First-Class Sleepers Daily between CHICAGO AND SAN FRANCISCO Without Change are carried on

Question Bureau.

RULES.—1.—Real name and address must be written with every question. 2.—Only one question at a time. 3.—Don't ask for addresses of persons or firms, nor where to buy or sell anything, for such answers would be free advertising. 4.—Don't ask about the reliability of any person or firm. 5.—We reserve the right to reject any question whose answer would not be of general interest; and will answer no mathematical problems, questions of law, nor concerning prices of coins. 6.—No answers by mail.

Dry and Moist Air.

Which is the lighter, dry air or moist, and what proof is there to show which is the heavier?"—R. W. M., Argyle, Wis.

Moist air weighs more than dry. To prove it, try the common laboratory experiment. Obtain a large globe of thin glass, with stopcock. Exhaust the air by an air-pump, and then fill it with air dried by forcing it through a tube filled with chloride of calcium, which absorbs all the moisture; weigh it, and note the weight. Then exhaust the air, and fill the globe with moist air. Weigh again, and it will be heavier by the weight of the moisture.

But don't confuse the weight of the air as a substance with the pressure of the atmosphere, as indicated by a barometer. The barometer will be low when a shower is approaching, yet the atmosphere is very moist, because the upward motion of the air, caused by the coming storm, reduces the pressure.

Oklahoma Lands.

"Some Indian land in Oklahoma, known as the Kiowa and Comanche reservation is to be opened to settlement next year. I ask you to inform me through your paper if a soldier holding a land warrant can lay the same on the land before the Presiden makes his proclamation opening same? If he cannot at this time, please conform me when he can."—W. T. D., Fido, Va.

We are sorry we cannot tell. Address the "Commissioner of the General Land Office, Washington, D. C."

Metric System.

"What action has Congress heretofore taken in regard to adopting the metric system of weights and measures?"—O. P., Nashville, Mich.

In 1866, a law was passed legalizing the use of th metric system in the United States, but not rendering it compulsory. A bill is now preparing by the House committee on coinage, weights and measures, to render their use obligatory after a given date, and it is to be hoped it will become a law at this session of Congress.

Lizards in Ireland.

J. T. W., Matteson, N. D., writes: "In your answer to W. C. G., in issue of Dec. 13, you state that there are no lizards in Ireland because it is too cold for them. I am informed by several persons who were born there, that while the are no snakes nor toads there are lizards in abundance, at least in some parts of the island."

The Century.

"Why do we use the year one to finish 1900? Why not use 99 years, hence the same reminder, 1900, is used?"—C. M. L., Nevada, O.

We hardly understand the question. A century is 100 years, not 99 years. The first century began with the first day of the year 1, and 100 years were not completed until the last day of the year 100. So the 19th century is not completed until the end of Dec. 31, 1900.

Pension to Sailors.

"Please inform me whether men enlisting in the United States navy at the present time are entitled to pensions."—J. J. P., Melvern, Kan.

They are entitled to pensions under the general law, if disabled by reason of service.

Water on Atolls.

"How do the natives of coral islands obtain their supply of fresh water?"—H. R. J., De Soto, Wis.

There are many islands called coral, which consist of an ordinary island, encircled by coral rock. Such islands have springs on them, of course. But other coral islands, in the form of rings, called atolls, are nothing but coral rock, and where inhabited the only drinking water is that which falls in rain.

A Scriptural Quotation.

"What is meant by the phrase 'Money is the good of all evil,' and where did it originate?"—W. F. B., Gaylord, Minn.

There is no such quotation. The proper quotation is: "The love of money is the root of all evil." It occurs in Paul's First Epistle to Timothy, sixth chapter, tenth verse. This is very often misquoted, "Money is the root of all evil," but this is incorrect, of course, as well as being a false statement.

Cotton Goods.

"I read in a paper recently that the woolen mills are manufacturing cotton goods that sell as woolen, by a process known as tar finish. It says experts can not tell the difference between it and woolen goods. Is there anything in the report?"—A. B. W., Van Wert, Ohio.

We have made diligent inquiry, but no wholesale man ever heard of the "tar finish." Are not you thinking of the "mercerizing" process, which gives a silk finish to cotton goods, such as silkoline? Cotton is used to adulterate wool, and where used in small quantities can not be detected, even by experts; but if 50 per cent or more is used, it is easily seen.

Animal Odors.

"Please tell A. T. R., Red Creek, N. Y., that skunk scent may be removed from clothing by smoking over a fire of cedar boughs. I have heard that by burying clothing for three or four days the earth will absorb the scent, but I never saw it tried; also by burying in charcoal, powdered."—J. T. W., Matteson, N. D.

The "Buckeye Broadax."

"What has become of the great temperance lecturer, called the 'Buckeye Broadax?' I think his proper name was Henry Chance. Is he dead? Where did he live? If dead, where did he die, and when?"—D. W. H., Topeka, Ind.

Mr. Henry Chance lived at Fremont, O., and was the father of Hon. Mahlon Chance. He died at his home there a number of years ago.

Those Lands.

"Are the lands in Oklahoma now open for settlers? If not, when will they be?"—J. C. N., Hurricane Branch, Tenn.

No announcement has yet been made of the opening, nor when they will be opened. When it is made, we will print it in our news columns—not in the Bureau. Or, you can write to the commissioner of the general land office at Washington.

Owen Meredith.

"Will you please give the biography of Owen Meredith, author of 'Lucile'? Have often wondered whether the sadness so prevalent in his writings is a reflection of a hopeless disappointment in his own life. Is it so?"—W. M. G., Hatfield, Mo.

"Owen Meredith" was the pen-name of Edward Robert Bulwer-Lytton, Baron Lytton, son of Sir Edward Bulwer-Lytton, the famous English novelist. The son entered the English diplomatic service in 1846, as secretary to his uncle, Sir Henry Bulwer, who was English minister at Washington, and who gave his name to the Clayton-Bulwer treaty of 1850, negotiated with Mr. Clayton on the part of the United States. Young Lytton subsequently was an attache of the English embassies at Florence and Paris; in 1856 he was sent to The Hague, and in 1860 to Vienna. After extended diplomatic service at other European capitals, he was made secretary of embassy at Paris, and Governor General of India in 1876.

His first poems were printed in 1856. In 1860 he published the Wanderer; Lucile in 1860; a collection of Servian songs in 1861; a prose romance, The Ring of Amasis, in 1863, and later other works. His wife was a daughter of Hon. Edward Ernest Villiers. The mawkish sentimentality of Lucile made it a favorite when published, but a healthier and more cultivated literary taste among the reading public now has sent the book into obscurity. His life was successful, in his occupations and in matrimony, and he was wealthy by inheritance. Hence the "disappointment" did not exist. It was simply a silly literary fashion in the epoch from 1840 to 1870.

Reciprocity.

"Who was the father of reciprocity, and what is the meaning of the word reciprocity?"—J. B., Upper Sandusky, O.

By reciprocity is meant that one nation will admit the import of certain products of another nation in return for a similar favor shown its own products, at a lower rate of duty than is charged on the same products from other countries. This is a reciprocal action, hence is termed reciprocity; that is, "you favor me, and I'll favor you." No one has the right to be called the "father of reciprocity." The man who advocated it most strongly of late years was James G. Blaine, but we had reciprocity treaties before his day.

The Aztecs.

"Please tell in what respect the Aztec race, which occupied Mexico, differed from the American Indian, and whether there are any of them now living?"—C. W. R., Caldwell, Neb.

The Aztecs were properly only one tribe out of the seven which occupied the plateau of Central Mexico at the time of the conquest by Cortez in 1575. From all we can find out these seven tribes were simply more advanced in civilization than the other Indians of Mexico, but did not differ racially from them. The Mexican Indians are of smaller stature and darker than the Indians of the United States, but undoubtedly of the same race. There are plenty of Indians yet in Mexico.

The Danish Islands.

"Please tell me of what importance are the Danish islands to the United States, which we are talking of purchasing?"—E. H., Hatch Hollow, Pa.

Their importance lies in their value as a naval base. They are immediately east of Porto Rico, and therefore we do not need them so much for a naval station as to prevent some great European naval power from acquiring them. In case of war with said power it would cost us far more than the price now asked by Denmark.

Saloons in Manila.

"How many saloons were there in Manila before the Americans took possession, and how many now? A lot of people say that there was only one saloon before the Americans went there and that there are hundreds of them now."—W. A. H., Normanda, Ind.

That "lot of people" are utterly wrong, and are simply repeating falsehoods set on foot by some fanatical political prohibitionist. Refer to Weekly Blade of Nov. 1, 1900, fourth page, last two columns, headed "The Army Canteen." You will get the truth there.

Weight of Corn.

"A and B differ as to the number of pounds in a bushel of corn. A claims 60 pounds, B says 68. Which is right?"—A. W. C., Cedar Mills, O.

The weight of a bushel of corn is fixed by state law, and varies in different states. In Ohio it is 56 pounds.

Cent of 1794.

"I have a one cent piece made in 1794 and on the margin of it it has the words 'one hundred for a dollar.' Is that the mint mark or not? How many one cent pieces made in that year?"—W. N., Cresco, N. D.

No, that is not the mint mark. The copper cents, the nickels, and present bronze cents, have no mint marks, as they are coined only at the Philadelphia mint. Silver and gold coins with no mint mark are of Philadelphia coinage; those at San Francisco have a small F under the bust; Carson City, C C; New Orleans, O.

The cents were first coined in 1793, and for a few years had the inscription, "one hundred for a dollar," in order to familiarize people with their value, as they were a new coin then. The total number of cents coined in 1793-94 and '95 was 1,066,025. The mint records do not give the number for each of these years.

The Greek Word "Pan."

"Please inform me of the meaning of the word Pan-American, in speaking of the Pan-American exposition at Buffalo."—D. J., Mattison, Mich.

The Greek word "pan" means "all." The Pan-American Exposition is an exposition for the exhibits of all the Americas—North, Central and South. The Pantheon at Rome was a temple dedicated to all the gods—pan, all, and theos, a god. Panorama is from pan, all, and horama, sight or view. The Pan-Presbyterian council is composed of representatives from all the different Presbyterian bodies.

No Such Promise.

"Is it a fact the leaders in this fall's campaign promised the liquor dealers that if McKinley was elected that they would reduce the tax on beer or any liquor of any kind, and what has been the tax on it the past year and has there been any change in that time?"—U. L. R., Andrews, Ohio.

No such promise was made, and no such promise could be kept; because the Representatives and Senators in Congress, have brains enough to do as they please in such a matter. It requires a law of Congress and the signature of the President to impose a tax or to take one off. The war tax act was passed in April, 1898, to raise money to carry on the Spanish war. That act has not been changed up to the present time. Don't imagine that every reckless campaign lie must be a fact, as in this case.

Louis Philippe.

"Who was the last king or queen of France and why is there none now?"—W. L., Yale, Ill.

Louis Philippe was the last person to reign with the title of king in France, though he called himself "King of the French," not king of France. The revolution of 1848 overthrew him, and he fled to England. Louis Napoleon was made President, and he, by his famous coup d' etat, made himself emperor under the title of Napoleon III. He was defeated and captured at Sedan, in the Franco-Prussian war; the Empress and Prince Imperial fled to England, and a temporary national government was formed. After peace was declared, the present French Republic was established.

Sponge.

"This is the leading sponge port of the South, and I have talked with a great many sponge dealers, but cannot seem to know what is done with it after it is cleaned and shipped. Will you tell what is done with it?"—E. J. M., Tarpon Springs, Fla.

The sponges are sold to wholesale dealers in the Eastern cities, who sell them to retailers all over the country.

Key of the Bastile.

"In Washington's manston, Mt. Vernon, there is preserved in a special glass case the key to the famous old bastile in Paris. How did Mr. Washington get possession of it?"—A. C. D., Conklin, Mich.

Lafayette took an active part in the French Revolution. When the Bastile was destroyed, he obtained the key, and sent it as a present to Washington.

Spanish War Widows.

"Are widows of men who served in the Spanish war pensionable?"—A. B., Trenton, N. J.

Such a widow is pensionable if the husband died of disease or disability contracted in the service, or died while in service. But she is not pensionable under the act of June 27, 1890.

Widow's Pension.

"Will you kindly inform your readers if a widow who married an old soldier in December, 1898, is eligible to pension under the present law?"—B. C. H., Fitchburg, Mass.

Well, what do you mean by the present law? If her husband was pensionable under the "old law"—act of July 14, 1862—then she is entitled to pension; if he was pensionable only under the act of June 27, 1890, she was not eligible, as she was married after that act was passed.

Pensions to Regulars.

"Are soldiers who were in the regular army entitled to a pension the same as volunteers? I also know an old lady who is getting a pension for her son, her husband lied 10 or 12 years after her son died."—A. B. L., Flora, Ill.

Soldiers in the regular army during the rebellion have the same rights to pension as volunteers of that war. They are eligible under either the old law or that of 1890. Regulars serving since the civil war are eligible to pension under the old law, but not under that of 1890. As to the woman, if her husband was not able to support her, and she was dependent in whole or part on her son, she was eligible to pension.

Our National Motto.

O. B. K., Groveport, O.: The motto of the United States, "E pluribus unum," was suggested to John Adams by an Englishman, Sir John Prestwick. Adams communicated the idea to the Secretary of the Congress, Charles Thompson, who, on June 20, 1782, reported to Congress his design for a government seal; in it the Latin legend was to be borne on a ribbon held in the beak of an eagle. The motto was in use on the Gentleman's Magazine from 1750, and that may have suggested it to Sir John Prestwick.

Miscellaneous.

L. M., Blacksville, W. Va.: We can not arrange for their publication.

S. B., Fernalda, Va.: We do not know. Address "Supt. U. S. Reservation, Hot Springs, Ark.," including postage.

M. S., Fredonia, N. Y.: Write to some book publisher, explain what you desire, and ask him if he wishes to arrange for publication. Each week you will find the leading publishers mentioned in the column of "Recent Literature," on recend page.

C. E. M., Molehill, W. Va.: You can not expect us to keep posted on the laws of 45 different states. That is the reason you will find, in the rules at the head of this department, the statement that no questions of law will be answered. Why not ask a lawyer or a school teacher?

WAGONS USED TO TRANSPORT PUPILS TO SCHOOL AT GUSTAVUS, OHIO.

OHIO SCHOOL EXPERIMENT

How Children in Two Townships Are Transported to School.

Dr. H. H. Longsdorf, of Camp Hill, Pa., by request of the commissioner of schools and agricultural secretary of Pennsylvania, has been investigating the workings of the rural centralized schools of Ohio, says the Cleveland Plain Dealer.

In the New England states, likewise in a few Ohio districts, a town system, by which children living in country localities are transported to the nearest village for educational purposes, has long been employed; but a complete system by which the schools of a rural township, remote from a town or city, are combined into one graded central school, is used in but two places of the United States, Greene, O., and Gustavus, O.

Dr. Longsdorf expects to publish soon in pamphlet form all the data he will have gathered, respecting both rural and town systems of centralization. Five thousand of the pamphlets will be distributed among country people of Pennsylvania. It is probable when their legislature convenes, a bill to provide for the establishing of a central school in any township of Pennsylvania will go through.

Representatives from the Illinois schools have also been visiting Green and Gustavus. They expect to take measures toward the agitation of the rural central school system in that state.

Many townships throughout Ohio are opening their eyes to the fact that centralization is a practicable method for helping the country pupils to better educational advantages. Last April a complete law to provide for the centralization of township schools and provide a high school for the same was passed by the Ohio legislature. The law defines centralization as a "system of schools in a township providing for the abolishment of all subdistricts and the conveyance of pupils to one or more central schools." It requires that the question of centralization shall be submitted to a vote of the qualified electors of the township. If the "yeas" are in majority it then becomes the duty of the board of education to proceed at once to the centralization of the township schools.

The board of education under central school management consists of five members elected at large in a township. It is required to support a graded course of instruction and furnish transportation to and from school to all pupils living more than three-quarters of a mile from the central building.

Greene and Gustavus have sold at auction their "little red school houses" of sentiment and have supplanted them by a handsome new building in the heart of each township.

Greene's $5,000 edifice of brick veneering with stone trimmings is about all that need be desired in the way of a rural school building. It contains seven rooms, besides an alcove library, cloak closets and spacious halls. It is heated with steam and has many of the equipments of a modern city school.

Competent teachers have been hired for the primary, intermediate, grammar and high school grades, which each occupy a room.

Three years of instruction are included in the high school course. A graduate therefrom will be admitted to the average college.

A music teacher goes the rounds of the central building twice a week that the rising generations of Green may know how to sing.

In covered vans, having glass windows at front and back, 160 pupils of Green township are carried to school.

A van driver announces by the shrill blast of a horn his arrival at a homestead. Five minutes is the limit of time allotted to tardy children at each stopping place. Usually punctual, the children clamber up some steps and pass through a door at the rear of the wagon to take their places on the seats stretching along the sides.

Almost on the moment of 8:30 of a school day morning eight vans rumble up the drive leading to the central building. Having backed against a platform the wagons unload their burdens of noisy boys and girls. From here the children can pass dry and clean to the sheltering haven of their school rooms.

Before the dismissal of school at night the wagons are waiting by the platform for their passengers.

The drivers are in the main ambitious farmers of Greene anxious to fatten their slender pocketbooks. The provide their own vans and receive monthly salaries of $26.

When farm work presses the women often lend a hand in driving the vans.

The eight school routes of Green have been apportioned as fairly as possible. The wagons covering the four and five mile routes carry the fewest pupils.

In the winter when the air blows cold and roads are rough, the children will still be snug in their tedious journeys to and from school; for heavy carpets, heaps of blankets and hot bricks will add to the furniture of the "kid" wagons.

The van drivers have specified rules of moral conduct to obey. They also hold authority over their passengers and usually keep them fairly quiet and well behaved.

"I'll not stir from this spot until you are all quiet in your seats," a woman driver threatened one night. The surprised children desisted from their fracas and the horses went on.

The crude method of rural mail delivery that has been established in Greene and Gustavus by means of the central school routes is proving satisfactory. For a small compensation each van driver gets the mail from the postoffice at night for the families along his route and delivers it.

An approximate estimation of current expenses in Greene, makes the cost of maintaining her central school $3,000, annually, $700 more than the yearly expenditures under the sub-district system.

But as partial offsets to the heightened expense thirty-three more pupils, some of them being out-of-town students, paying tuition, are enrolled in the new school than in the old ones, while high school pupils enjoy two extra months of instruction.

Gustavus maintains her central school for about $400 more than the annual current expenses of sub-district system. After nearly two years of experiment Gustavus people are almost without an exception in favor of centralization.

The advantages it offers to country children need not be particularized. Anyone, by comparing a rural school where there are either so few pupils, no interest can possibly be awakened among them, or else so many the one teacher is overwhelmed by classes with a good graded school having competent teachers for each grade, will readily discover a score of benefits to be derived from centralization.

Tardiness or absence from school because of bad weather are back numbers. Property of Greene and Gustavus has increased appreciably in value since the establishment of their central schools. Farmers are eager to buy or rent land in townships offering superior educational advantages to their children.

The far sighted say that the central school system is going to cause a change for the better in our much grumbled over, much laughed at Ohio roads.

WHY THE POPULISTS LOST NEBRASKA

Probably the most unique explanation advanced for the loss of Nebraska to the Democracy in the last election was that of a disgruntled but not disheartened Democrat here, says the Chicago Chronicle. The speaker was surrounded by a knot of Republican friends, when he sud-

REPUBLICAN SCHEME IN NEBRASKA.

denly sprung his assertion, and now the auditors are trying to figure out whether he meant it in earnest or as a joke.

"I tell you Mark Hanna's strategy is what carried Nebraska," said the speaker. "His oratory and the oratory of the other Republican spell-binders who spouted from one end of the state to the other had but little to do with swinging the state into the Republican ranks with 8,000 majority.

"Did you notice the great scarcity of barbers here in Chicago the latter part of the summer and the early part of the autumn? Yes? Well, where do you suppose these barbers went? Of course you don't know, but Mark Hanna, with his pockets bulging with the Republican campaign fund, engaged just 5,000 of 'em and shipped the whole outfit to Nebraska and down into Kansas.

"Why? Well, the barbers formed a part of the Republican 'biggest show on earth' aggregation in those two states, and when the orators had their populistic audiences dazed they fell easy victims to the barbers' keen razors. With their whiskers off the hall mark, as it were, of their party was gone and in desperation they bolted the issue. A Populist, you see, is no more a Populist without his wealth of whiskers than is a Chinaman a Chinaman without his queue. That's the secret of the slump in Kansas and Nebraska and some day you'll find it in the histories your children study in the schools."

STEVENSON'S ATTENTIVE LISTENER

Adlai E. Stevenson, Mr. Bryan's running mate during the recent Presidential campaign, is a capital story teller and a good yarn loses none of its virtue when he happens to be placed in an embarrassing predicament by its telling. On one occasion he was making a trip down the Ohio river on a steamboat and was having difficulty whiling away the time. He met several passengers, but was not interested in any one until he was introduced to a well-dressed man of about 20, whom he had noticed sitting alone near the bow of the boat.

"How are you, my young friend?" said Stevenson, warmly.

The young man returned the handshake with a show of appreciation, but said nothing. He looked a little embarrassed, so Stevenson decided to tell him a real good story. He related one of his best, throwing his whole soul into his words, and the young man smiled pleasantly throughout.

When the story was finished, Mr. Stevenson asked one or two questions, but the young man seemed embarrassed again, and another anecdote was told. Tale after tale followed until the boat drew into Owensboro, Ky. Then the young man got up, shook hands politely, and without a word walked on shore.

A few minutes later Stevenson said to another one of the passengers he had met:

"That boy I was talking to is one of the most intelligent young fellows I have ever seen. There is a great future before him."

"Can you talk the language?" the other man asked in surprise.

"What language?"

"The mute language, of course. That boy is deaf and dumb."

"Well, he is the most eloquent listener I've ever known," said Stevenson, but he talked to no other strangers on that trip.—Chicago Chronicle.

Getting Beyond the Limit.

Mrs. Burdock—How long the evenings are now, John!

Mr. Burdock—Yes, they are too everlasting long! According to that young Mr. Staylate, who is sparking Arabella, they begin at 7 and last until half-past 11!

Easily Accounted For.

Little Herbert (after Christmas)—Santa Claus was over at our church last night, at 9 o'clock—just when the program said he would come.

Little Harold (positively)—Aw, go on, he couldn't have been. He was at our church at 9. I was watching the clock while we were waiting for him. Your clock must have been slow.

MUSTN'T "OWN" THEIR ENGINES

The railroad engineer who "owns" his engine is not in favor with his superior, says the New York Mail and Express. Complaints about trivial matters are likely to be made against him, and soon he finds himself without a berth. The phrase "owning an engine" does not mean that the engineer has acquired title in his iron horse. The expression is used of a man who has been with a certain engine so long that he becomes a part of it. He knows its every peculiarity; he feels its every protest against a heavy load, and he nurses it and coddles it as if it were his child. He dislikes to run the engine at topspeed, for fear something will happen to it, and in consequence his train is frequently behind time. He takes a grade at half the rate he should, and he runs cautiously down hill. In a word, he "owns" his engine.

Of course this is all very nice and idyllic, and it is the kind of a thing a person likes to read about in stories of the railroad. But plain, practical railroad men look at it differently. They argue that the best engineer is the man who never fails to run his train according to his running time, the man who is never behind and seldom ahead. So it comes about that the engineer who makes a master of that which should be his servant wonders who has a grudge against him. But it isn't a grudge; it's business.

Historic St. Marylebone.

The old parish church of St. Marylebone recently celebrated the 500th anniversary of the laying of its foundation stone by Robert de Braybrooke, bishop of London, says the London Chronicle. The old church is the quaintest among London's many quaint ecclesiastical buildings. And it is further remarkable in being the smallest. Its associations, historical and literary are also exceptional—many of the dukes of Portland lie buried within its walls, as does Baretti, a great friend of Dr. Johnson, while in the odd little adjoining churchyard repose the remains of Charles Wesley. Lord Byron was baptized in the church in March, 1788; Dickens makes it the scene of a similar ceremony in "Dombey and Son," while the tomb on which Hogarth represents his famous "Rake" gaming of a Sunday morning is still a conspicuous object in the churchyard.

Reason for Offense.

"I suppose you will be glad to get back to Washington and settle down to business."

"Yes," answered Senator Sorghum, a little testily. "Although there isn't any use of putting it in that language. It isn't quite like a man going on 'change, you know."—Washington Star.

Accounted For.

"What seems to be the matter with him?" asked the doctor approaching the bedside of the man who lay swathed in bandages.

"He found the gas leak," briefly explained the nurse.—Chicago Tribune.

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VARICOCELE

CURED Permanently, whether caused by excesses, overwork or early abuse. The enlarged veins gradually disappear and the organs resume a normal condition. No operation—no cutting—no detention from business. The *New Method Treatment* cures by modern scientific principles. Emissions and all drains cease, worry veins disappear, vital energy returns, nerves grow stronger ambition and confidence replaces gloom and despair. We challenge the world for a case we cannot cure in a few weeks. No cure a pay, no years experience—seven cured. Question Blank and Book Free for Home Treatment. DRS KENNEDY & KERGAN, Detroit, Mich.

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HEIRS TO BRITAIN'S THRONE SOON TO VISIT CANADA

Prince and Princess George of Wales, who are soon to visit Canada, and, probably, the United States, are the most popular pair of England's royal family. George is the direct heir to the British throne after his father, the Prince of Wales. He fell into line for the succession on the death of his elder brother, the Duke of Clarence, in 1892. Previous to his marriage in 1893 he had been an active officer in the British navy. His wedding with Princess May of Teck, whose mother was a cousin of the queen, was the occasion of spontaneous popular enthusiasm owing to the democratic character and good nature of both young people.

CASTORIA

For Infants and Children.

The Kind You Have Always Bought

Bears the Signature of Chas. H. Fletcher.

The Sunday School.

Fourth Quarterly Review. By J. E. Gilbert, secretary of American Society of Religious Education.

INTRODUCTION.—During the quarter we have had one lesson from Paul, designed but not adapted to teach temperance, and one lesson, that of last week, pertaining to the advent, intended as a Christmas study. The other lessons, ten in all, have been taken in chronological order from the narrative of Christ's life, beginning in the fall of A. D. 29, when he was in Perea, and ending in the spring following, when he was in Jericho. One of ten lessons is from Matthew, one from Mark, and eight from Luke. Two pertain to miracles, the cure of leprosy and of blindness, and one involves a miracle. Eight treat important doctrines in an exceedingly interesting way. The instructive part of Christ's ministry as he approaches the end becomes more tender and spiritual, evidently esteemed by him superior to his works.

FIRST LESSON.—Oct. 7.—"Jesus Dining with a Pharisee." Luke xiv:1-14. This lesson is in three parts. The first pertains to Sabbath observance, in which Christ defended himself against the Pharisees, who censured him for healing a man of the dropsy. In the second part Jesus condemns the course of the guests who sought the chief seats at the table and who were advised to be humble. In the third part Jesus shows the best that he had made unwise selections of guests, that it would have been better to invite the poor rather than the rich, receiving thereby a spiritual reward which would transcend the three parts suggest three topics: "The Lawful Healing," "The Highest Honor," "The Blessed Dinner."

SECOND LESSON.—Oct. 14.—"The Parable of the Great Supper." Luke xiv:15-24. One who heard Christ's remarks concerning the poor at feasts thought it would be a great privilege to eat in the kingdom of God. Without exposing the man's real meaning or opposing his statement, Jesus proceeded to show that, blessed as might be this privilege, men were slow to accept it, even when urgently invited. He presents three classes of persons: One had purchased land which he desired to see; another had bought oxen, which he would prove; the third had married. All these classes, whose excuses were of little value, were rejected, and the poor were invited. The parable reflects upon the Jews who did not accept the gospel and were cast off.

THIRD LESSON.—Oct. 21.—"The Lost Sheep and Lost Coin." Luke xv:1-10. A crowd of publicans and sinners gathered about Jesus, and the Pharisees and Pharisees to criticise him. To silence their objections Jesus uttered these two parables. They are intended to set forth the same great truth, that when anything valuable has been lost it is diligently sought, and that there is rejoicing when it is found. The parables rest upon familiar experiences of shepherd and of domestic life. The lost sheep is an object of peculiar affection among a pastoral people, and in those days women who were entrusted with the care of pieces of money, the sign of their virtue and fidelity, esteemed them as exceedingly precious.

FOURTH LESSON.—Oct. 28. "The Prodigal Son." Luke xv:11-24. There is some doubt what was the chief thought in the mind of Christ in uttering this parable. Some think he intended to represent the Jews as the elder son who, displeased because the Gentiles, the younger son, after wayward living, were received back into favor, and made heirs. But if the story was designed to illustrate the method and spirit of a penitent sinner, and the gracious reception accorded by the merciful God. This latter is the more general thought. It would be perilous if the student would trace the changes in the mind of the prodigal and compare them with the states experienced in conversion.

FIFTH LESSON. Nov. 4.—"The Unjust Steward." Luke xvi:1-13. Here is debatable ground. Many have tried to find something in the spirit of a fraudulent servant which may be commended for imitation. The purpose of Jesus was rather to exhibit the evil of worldly men as a model to his followers. They are called to make friends of the non-Christian classes, not by sharp practices, but by downright honesty and fair dealing. They are urged not to allow that fidelity in secular or material concerns is necessary to obtain standing in society as well as to make progress spiritually. The good will of the ungodly is desirable but not by any compromise. Steadfast adherence to right is the price to be paid for confidence and approval.

SIXTH LESSON, Nov. 11.—"The Rich Man and Lazarus." Luke xvi:19-31. It should be noticed in this parable that the rich man is not described as being wicked, neither the poor man as being pious. Nothing is said about the character of either, although that may be assumed. The lesson is not, therefore, intended to teach the doctrine of reward and punishments. It simply presents to us two men, one of whom lived in luxury and the other in want, who in the next life reversed their condition. Evidently the purpose was to show that worldly possessions do not determine eternal destiny, a check to the ambitions of the wealthy, an encouragement to the poor.

SEVENTH LESSON, Nov. 18.—"The Ten Lepers Cleansed." Luke xvii:11-19. Leprosy has ever been regarded an appropriate emblem of sin. For each there is no known human remedy. In cleansing the leper Jesus showed his power. The method employed revealed the necessity to recognize the laws of Judaism, not yet repealed, and to affirm their value, at the same time his ability was made available. The return of thanks and praise made by one and the ingratitude of the other nine illustrate the manner of many who accept the manifold blessings of God, but forget him the giver. The faith element appears in striking manner.

EIGHTH LESSON.—Nov. 25.—"Sober Living." Titus ii:1-15. An experienced minister in his old age, as he is about to lay down his earthly trust and go the way of all the earth, advises young ministers concerning the duties of the sacred office. What qualities should be found in the pastor, what motives should prompt him; what teachings he should give to different classes of persons; all this is laid down in order and with great simplicity. Here is an epitome of practical theology which might be followed by men in our time. Here are wholesale ideals of life for men, women, children, servants and masters, which, if adopted, would build society upon a basis and pattern well suited to secure the rights and happiness of all.

NINTH LESSON.—Dec. 2.—"The Rich Young Ruler." Matt. xix:16-26. It is evident that this narrative shows the peril of wealth. One who has property bases character in conduct. Jesus tried him by that rule and obtained only a profession of life-long conformity to the law. To reveal the real state of the heart, which is a matter of first concern, the man was required to give away his property, but he went away sorrowful. He who loves riches more than God must give them away to find God. He who loves not God supremely may be not trusted with wealth, which is an obstacle to keep men from God. That is a blessing that helps men to serve him.

TENTH LESSON.—Dec. 9.—"Bartimeus Healed." Mark x:46-52. There are three modes of approaching this lesson—from the standpoint of the blind beggar, who cried for mercy and would not be silenced; who came when bidden and stated his desire simply, who praised God and joined the multitude of followers when sight was restored; from the standpoint of the multitude, who first reproved the seeker, who afterward invited and led him to the Saviour, who finally rejoiced at the great deed; from the standpoint of Jesus, who heard the pleading of the blind, who paused and called him, who questioned on his approach, who touched and spoke and the work was done.

ELEVENTH LESSON.—Dec. 16.—"Zacheus the Publican." Luke xix:1-10. See him, the little man in the sycamore tree, led by earnestness to see Jesus, willing because of the crowd to lay aside the dignity that belonged to wealth and station. See Jesus passing along the street, his eyes turned aloft and hear his words appointing a feast for himself at the rich man's table. See the two when they meet with joyful greeting. Hear the proposal to rectify all wrong done in public life, a proposal that would bankrupt some officials. Hear the Saviour's words declaring that this pledge was a guarantee of salvation, and explaining that He had come into the world to seek and save the lost.

TWELFTH LESSON.—Dec. 23.—Matt. ii:1-11. "Christmas." Backward we are turned to the beginning of the gospel story that we may with appropriate recollections observe the great church festival. Let the thought take in the journey of the wise men from the east, led by the star; their interview with Herod at Jerusalem, desiring to know where to find the infant king; Herod's anxiety followed by the assemblage of the chief priests, his answer and hypocritical expression of desire to worship; the departure of the wise men, their journey to Bethlehem, their guidance to the manger cradle, and their joy in finding the object of their search. No being ever began an earthly career so highly honored. Three civilizations gathered about the place of his advent as they surrounded the cross at his death. Kings and priests conspired and the wise honored, prophecy of what awaited him and his cause.

CONCLUSION.—Let the student tell where the following truths are taught in the lessons, and how. 1.—Jesus came unknown to priests, hated by the king, foretold in Scripture, sought by the wise. 2.—It is lawful to heal on the Sabbath. 3.—Humility precedes honor. 4.—Condescension exalts. 5.—Seeking for the lost is according to human instincts. 6.—God's free gifts are sometimes rejected. 7.—The cure of the unfortunate, disregarded by men, awakens Divine sympathy and brings relief. 8.—The penitent sinner will be welcomed on his return. 9.—Thanksgiving for God's favors is a commendable virtue. 10.—Favor with the world must be sought by fraud. 11.—Wealth is no pledge of heavenly joy and poverty is no bar. 12.—Wealth entrenched in the heart, if it alienates from God, is a fatal evil. 13.—Christ is the great guest who is to be sought and welcomed. 14.—The rich man may seek Jesus and make him a guest.

BRONZE STATUE OF GARRET A. HOBART

The committee having the matter in charge has chosen a design for the monument to be erected in memory of Garret A. Hobart, late vice president of the United States. The design selected is that submitted by Philip Martiny, and shows Mr. Hobart standing on a pedestal in a listening attitude, with a gavel in his hand. It is to be of bronze and will

DESIGN FOR BRONZE STATUE.

cost $15,000, that sum having been raised by a committee. The figure of Mr. Hobart will be nine feet high. The kind of pedestal on which the statue will stand has not yet been selected. It is also announced that a few slight changes in the design will be recommended to the sculptor by the committee. Mr. Martiny, the successful competitor, is on the art committee of the Pan-American exposition.

What He Did.

Kentuckian—He called me a liar, sir, New Yorker—And what did you do?

Kentuckian—I went to the funeral.—Detroit Free Press.

Discovered by a Woman.

I have discovered a positive cure for all female diseases and the piles. It never fails to cure any of the various diseases peculiar to women, such as leucorrhea, displacements, ulceration, granulation, etc., or the piles from any cause in either sex. I will gladly mail a box of this wonderful medicine free to every sufferer. Mrs. C. B. MILLER, Box 93, Kokomo, Ind.

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THURSDAY, DECEMBER 20, 1900.

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CIRCULATION LAST WEEK: 169,000

TO CLUB AGENTS.

We are now prepared to furnish special yearly rates for the Weekly Blade, to those who desire to raise us clubs. We desire clubs early this year, and to that end we make our most favorable terms now. If, as we believe, we get our maximum list by mid-winter, we shall be more conservative in way of special terms. We now discontinue our campaign offer, and solicit yearly subscriptions

The Blade wishes its readers, one and all, a Merry Christmas!

THE DAVIS AMENDMENT.

The Senate on Thursday adopted the Davis amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, which is as follows:

It is agreed that none of the immediately foregoing conditions and stipulations in sections numbered 1, 2, 3, 4 and 5 of this act shall apply to measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own forces the defense of the United States and the maintenance of public order.

The effect of this amendment in modification of the stipulations of the numbered sections referred to will be as follows:

It permits the United States in time of war to utilize the canal in its own interest as against the enemy.

It permits the blockading of the harbor at both ends.

It permits the mining of the harbor by the United States.

It permits the erection of temporary defenses in time of war at both ends.

It permits a United States vessel to follow the enemy's vessel through the canal and immediately upon reaching the other side to engage her.

It permits a United States vessel to ignore the 24-hour limit as against the enemy under any and all circumstances.

It does not, however, permit the erection of permanent fortifications at either end of the canal.

The vote on the Senate on the amendment was 65 in its favor to only 17 against it—a clear indication of the purpose of the Senate to make the canal entirely American.

The most important question is now whether Great Britain will accept the provision inserted by the United States Senate. A treaty is a bargain between two powers, and both must agree, if it is to have any binding force. From the comments of the English press, the expectation is in London that the government will not agree to this amendment. Of course the Hay-Pauncefote treaty will thus fail; for the vote in the Senate is evidence that, in its original form, the treaty will not be ratified.

The situation, in case of England's refusal to accept the amendment, will be just which it is at present. We desire to build the Nicaragua canal, but the Clayton-Bulwer treaty stands in the way—not of its construction, but of its supervision. By that treaty it is agreed that neither the United States nor Great Britain shall attempt to control a proposed canal across Nicaragua.

That treaty still stands. Although some have argued in the past that it had lost its binding force, this government stands committed to its recognition, through the negotiation of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty, which is to take the place of that of 1850.

Then, if we propose to go with the canal, we must either formally abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, or we must break faith and construct the canal in violation of its provisions. Senator Money introduced a resolution yesterday for the former purpose, in words as follows:

Resolved, That the President of the United States be respectfully requested to consider the expediency of opening negotiations with the government of Great Britain for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, with assurance that such action on his part will meet with the hearty consent and support of the Senate.

The adoption of this resolution would be a courteous way of informing the English government that we no longer will be bound by the provisions of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty. The London Morning Post, referring to that convention, well remarks:

Should the United States denounce the treaty, there is no means known to international law of upholding it. Only one method of inducing a state to accept an obligation of which it is tired is the method of compulsion. That method is out of the question and will hardly be proposed.

In other words, England will not go to war with us over the matter. Every effort should be made to have the question settled with the consent of that country, but if diplomatic means fail, the United States can denounce the treaty and proceed to construct the canal, incurring nothing but ill-will of England.

THE TRIADS BUSY.

The rebellious movement in Southern China appears to be growing. The streets of Hong Kong—which is a British possession, be it remembered—were placarded on Dec. 13 with inflammatory appeals to the people, and the members of the secret societies, to rise in January and drive out all the "foreign devils." Though the Triands of the southern part of the empire are conspiring against the Emperor and the Manchu dynasty, they have the same hatred for all foreigners that is exhibited by the Boxers and the Chinese generally in the northern provinces. However, it is hardly probable that an attempt will be made to drive the British from Hong Kong. It would be an unfortunate step, for it would give England an excellent excuse to seize Canton and turn Kwang Tung province into a British hinterland.

Our English cousins continue to have the Boers on their hands.

CHRISTMAS.

Good morrow, merry gentlemen!
May nothing you dismay;
For Jesus Christ our Savior
Was born on Christmas day!
—Old English Carol.

Mirth, merriment and gayety for the children, and for all a surrender to the flow of a joyous, generous and forgiving spirit—these are the characteristics of the Christmas festival. They have marked it from the earliest ages, and it will be the worse for humanity when it ceases to enjoy the day in this spirit.

The custom of gift-giving at this high tide of all the feasts of Christianity is so old that history records not its beginnings; but it evidently had its foundation in deep religious feeling—that of commemorating the gift of a Redeemer to fallen humanity. But though there be many in these latter days who do not give assent to the dogmas of the church concerning Christ's birth and mission, they can join in the festivities and social observances of the day without doing violence to their beliefs. To them as to all others Christmas comes with its benison of good feeling and good cheer, and all men are better for the diversion afforded by participation in its enlivening joys and its spirit of cheery good-will towards all.

There is no doubt that a pagan festival occupied the place of Christmas long before the advent of Jesus. In the absence of a correct knowledge of the date of his birth, it is altogether probable the time of its commemoration was set at or very near that of a season of festivity hallowed to the masses of the people by immemorial observance. Some have been unduly distressed by this fact, and have tried unavailingly to alter the nature of its observance or to abolish the festival altogether. The Puritans tried the latter, stigmatizing Christmas as both pagan and Popish; their failure marked the deep hold it has in the hearts of the people. The Christian religion can gain nothing by opposing the humanitarian impulses which animate almost all men, Christian or agnostic, at this season of good cheer; the true Christmas spirit is antagonistic to both narrow sectarianism and to cold worldliness. It is good for us all to take a yearly season in which to think of the pleasure we can give to others, and to so act. And there you have the real keynote of Christmas observance.

THE CAPITAL'S CENTENNIAL.

Washington is one of the few modern cities built by design. It is not a commercial city. Though located on the Potomac, the water is not deep enough for large freight vessels, and hence it can never become a great seaport, even were it otherwise able to compete with New York and the other great Atlantic ports. Its manufactures are insignificant. It is the capital of the nation and the center of political activity, nothing more.

An act of Congress, passed in 1790, fixed the seat of government on the Potomac river. The next year Washington selected the site, and commissioners were appointed to lay out the city. The government was established there in 1800, Congress assembling on November 17; and it is this event which was formally celebrated Dec. 12. By the census of 1800, Washington had 3,210 population. The city was laid out on a magnificent scale, those having the work in charge realizing, fortunately, that the progress of the United States would create a city such as they dreamed of; but it has taken a century to bring anything like an adequate realization of their previsions.

Up to the period of the civil war, and even later, the contrast between the ambitious scale on which the capital was planned and its paucity of residences and buildings other than those belonging to the government, was so marked as to excite ridicule. In derision it was nicknamed the "City of Magnificent Distances." The streets were unpaved and the mud was fathomless in wet weather. The contrast between the public buildings and the mean character of many of the residences and business blocks was very great. Wide vacant areas appeared everywhere. Gas lamps at street corners illuminated potato fields or commons.

In point of fact, Washington was not made a city in reality until the Shepherd regime, which began in 1874. He realized what was needed, and set about doing the work. The broad streets and avenues were lifted out of the mud, and paved with asphalt, while flagging replaced brick or plank sidewalks. The city was, for the first time, properly sewered. A sluggish creek pretentiously named the Tiber, which had become a ditch of refuse, was replaced by a great sewer. The squares and circles which are such a delightful feature of the city, were parked, and statues placed therein.

These radical improvements were necessary, but they were costly. There was an outcry against Shepherd and his work. All the hide-bound conservatives joined therein, and the matter was, ridiculously enough, made a political issue. As a result, Shepherd was deposed. He is now living in the Southwest, where he has made a fortune in mining. The people of Washington now realize the need and value of the transformation he wrought, and honor him for it.

Washington was laid out by Major l'Enfant, who had been a military engineer under the First Napoleon. He planned the idea of great avenues, cutting diagonally across the city, and crossing the streets at an angle. These crossings gave opportunity for the squares and circles referred to above. But Major l'Enfant was not thinking of little ornamental parks when he drew his plans. He remembered the popular uprisings in Paris of the French Revolution; and he arranged these broad avenues with the idea that in case of riots or "uprisings of the masses," artillery could be planted at these intersections, from which streets radiate like the spokes of a wheel, and sweep the rioters into submission. Experience has proved his precautions were needless; but they have made Washington unique in the number of parks, that are a pleasure to the inhabitants, and add greatly to the beauty of the nation's capital.

Judge H. J. Ewing, of Cleveland, is preparing a bill to be introduced in the General Assembly, one year hence, which prohibits football playing in this state. The reason of his action is that he has a son who injured his kneecap at the game, and still persists playing it, despite his father's wishes. The judge is in small business when he tries to invoke the power of the state to control a disobedient son.

THE SHIPPING BILL.

The situation regarding the shipping bill in Congress is this: There is a sincere desire among a majority of the members to enact legislation that will open the way to the rehabilitation of our merchant marine, but there is a division of opinion as to the method of doing it. Hence there is opposition to this or that or the other provision of the senate bill; and no doubt the same condition will develop in the other branch of Congress when the house measure—which differs in many details from the senate bill—comes before that body.

Of course there is a pretty solid opposition, among the Democrats, to any government aid to American shipping, just as there is opposition to a protective tariff, or to honest money, or to any other legislation that actually promotes the material interests of the American people. But this would not count against the Republican majority, were the latter united as to the best mode of accomplishing the results aimed at by the shipping bill. The interest taken in the measure in the senate shows there is an earnest desire to fashion and enact into law some measure that will have the effect of carrying all, or nearly all, of American foreign trade in American vessels, instead of the beggarly five per cent now so carried.

Therefore we deem it probable that the earnest discussion of the bill, and of the various amendments offered, will result in the elaboration of a measure which will receive the support of both houses of Congress, and be enacted into law. The main features of the bill seem to be accepted by a safe majority in the senate. The differences of opinion are on matters of detail. The objectionable features will probably be eliminated and the shipping bill thus pass muster.

In this connection, the following editorial utterance from the Chicago Evening Post is pertinent:

There is a disposition in some quarters to look upon this bill as a "pet measure" of Senator Hanna. It is true he is one of its most ardent advocates, but he has specifically stated that he is not a shipbuilder and does not expect to reap any benefit personally through the passage of such a law. Mr. Hanna's well-known frankness should argue an acceptance of this statement as correct, and it may be taken for granted that he means just what he says when he wishes to be recognized simply as a champion of those interests represented by the shipbuilding industry. He earnestly believes that a subsidy measure would bring about the carrying of American commerce in American bottoms long before such a desirable condition could come through unassisted and open competition, and for this reason he urges the pending bill.

OUR SEWING MACHINE.

If you want a good, thoroughly reliable sewing machine at a reasonable price, buy the improved Blade machine. It is the same machine we have previously sold, with improvements. One of these is the drop head, by which the head, when the machine is not is use, sinks down below the table, which then covers over it, leaving a flat top—quite a convenience. With drop head, the price is but $18; with ordinary box head, $17—each inclusive of the Weekly Blade for a year. Read our advertisement of it on the seventh page of to-day's paper.

CANADA'S NEW ROUTE.

Elsewhere in this issue is a descriptive article on the new Canadian grain route from the Northwest to Europe. In brief, the route is this: Grain is to be brought from Duluth, Chicago and the upper lake ports in boats to Parry Sound, Georgian Bay; thence by the Canadian Atlantic railway to Hawkesbury, and thence, over the new railway to Riviere a Pierre, a port 68 miles from Quebec, where the largest ocean steamers can load directly from a large new elevator, with a storage capacity of a million bushels. Compared with the present route from Duluth and Chicago, via the lower lakes, Buffalo and New York, the distance to Liverpool is 800 miles shorter.

If the saving of 800 miles were the only factor to be considered, the Americans interested in grain shipments at Buffalo and New York might well feel alarmed over the possible diversion of traffic. But there are other matters which enter into the question. There will be no return cargoes from Parry Sound to Duluth and Chicago. Nor will the vessels carrying the grain from Riviere a Pierre to Liverpool do much better in the way of return freights. In both cases, there will be a cargo but one way; the return voyage will necessarily be made in ballast. Then the navigation of the St. Lawrence is somewhat slow and dangerous, and marine insurance is much higher than from New York across the Atlantic. We do not look for any great immediate success of this new effort of the Canadians to divert traffic from the United States. Nevertheless, Canada's persistence should stir up the New Yorkers engaged in the foreign trade to bestir themselves, or they will find their business gradually slipping away.

THE "CENTURY" STATE.

If the wishes of the people of Oklahoma and of the Indian Territory are acceded to by Congress, those two territories will be united and admitted as the state of Oklahoma during the present session of Congress. As Colorado, admitted in 1876, was the Centennial state, Oklahoma will be the Century state—being admitted at the beginning of the twentieth century.

The admission of this area to statehood will be the complete fulfillment of a treaty stipulation made in 1803. By the treaty of cession, through which we acquired the Louisiana purchase from France, we agreed that the territory should be "incorporated into the American Union" as speedily as possible.

It is now nearly 98 years since that provision was agreed to. It has been construed by successive congresses, from that time onward, to mean that the area should first be carved into separate organized territories, which, when their population and resources should warrant the step, should be admitted as states. This process has gone on steadily, until only the Indian Territory and Oklahoma remain outside the pale of statehood.

The united territories should be admitted, and at once. Of the thirty-two states admitted by congressional action, none had at the time of its admission, the population and wealth of these conjoined. By the census of last June they had 790,000 population, and the assessed valuation of property $95,000,000. Let the Century state come in!

Boston is making money out of copper mining. That city is the headquarters of most of the great companies, ten of which paid over twenty-three million dollars in dividends during the past year.

PUSHING THE TREATY.

From indications at Washington, the amended Hay-Pauncefote treaty will be brought to a vote before the holiday adjournment of Congress, which will come on Friday of this week.

This is wise, for two reasons: First, it clears the way in the Senate for discussion and action on the appropriation bills and other needed legislation; second, it defines the position of the United States with regard to the conditions on which we will build the Nicaraguan canal.

The House is setting an example of proper expedition in handling public business. It has already passed the army reorganization bill, and that to reduce the war revenues, as well as two or the great appropriation bills. The Senate has gotten behind in the dispatch of business, because of the consideration of the treaty—a matter with which the House has nothing to do. That is to be gotten out of the way this week, that waiting legislation may be promptly taken up in the Senate after the recess.

The amended treaty will be ratified, and then it is up to Great Britain to accept or reject it in its modified form. No one can tell certainly what the British ministry will do, but the tone of the English press is decisively against acceptance. The purpose here to make the canal a purely American enterprise, without allowing any foreign nation to exact any guarantee of neutrality, is opposed, not only in England, but by Continental Europe. The opinion there is, if the newspaper utterances are any criterion, that Great Britain will refuse to accept the amended treaty, and decline to abrogate the Clayton-Bulwer convention of 1850, and therefore that the construction of the Nicaragua canal will be indefinitely postponed.

The feeling is that the United States can not afford to show bad faith by refusing to be bound by the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, in which this country and England mutually agreed that neither shall ever attempt to control a Nicaraguan ship canal.

HARRISON'S OPINION.

Some of the Democratic brethren are lifting their voices, for the first time since the November election, to express their approval of the position of ex-President Harrison on the status of our insular possessions. They are quite welcome to do so. Republican papers have done the same thing with reference to ex-President Cleveland, who has been utterly out of line with his party ever since 1896.

Mr. Harrison, in his address to the students at Ann Arbor on Friday night, upheld the right and power of the United States government to acquire foreign territory and defended the legality of our title to the Philippines; but he argued that territory so acquired is under the constitution from the instant we obtain it; and that it can only be made into territories until it is admitted as states.

Mr. Harrison is a lawyer, and he was speaking as a lawyer on the controverted subject. It is a question which is now before the United States supreme court, and on which a decision will be made before long. If that tribunal takes the same view as does Mr. Harrison, then the only effect will be that the Porto Rican tariff law will be null and void, and there will be absolute free trade between the United States and that island, as well as the Philippines. Also, the inhabitants of both will be full citizens of the United States. There will be no change in the government of either. Nor will the actual status of affairs be changed in any radical manner.

As The Blade argued several times during the late campaign, the question is not one of politics, nor one in which the people can decide at the ballot-box. A law of Congress can not settle it, because it is a question of the interpretation of the constitution. This question has never before come up. Opinions differ concerning it, and there are eminent lawyers on both sides of the question. Should the supreme court decide in harmony with Mr. Harrison's view, it will be a tribute to his profundity; should the decision be adverse, it will simply furnish another instance of the fact that a good lawyer may be mistaken in his views of a constitutional question.

RURAL FREE DELIVERY.

Postmaster General Smith, in his annual report, takes strong ground in favor of the retention and extension of the system of rural free delivery. We certainly agree with him that it has come to stay, and that it ought to stay. Experience has proved that it stimulates social and business correspondence; it increases the circulation of daily newspapers, and of periodical literature; it diffuses an accurate knowledge of ruling markets and varying prices among the farmers; it brings the farm and its residents into daily contact with the outside world, and mitigates the seclusion from the great activities of the globe which is one of the greatest objections to permanent rural residence.

This last is the one argument to which Mr. Smith gives the greatest weight. He believes that the free delivery system will in a great measure stop the drift of population into the cities. Wherever it has been introduced, the standard of public intelligence is raised, the schools improve, an enlightened interest in public affairs and in the doings of the great world is created or quickened, and better citizenship follows. People find each day new and congenial topics of conversation and discussion in the current news.

The system, when fully extended over the one million square miles so closely settled as to make it practicable, will cost about twenty million dollars per year. However, there will be a saving in the abolition of a large number of small postoffices, and in other ways, which will reduce this, the Postmaster General thinks, to about fourteen millions. This sum, he says, can be met very easily by a reformation of the abuses of second-class mail privileges, without any injury to the value of the mail service—a reform which should be made, in any case.

Mr. McLean has two fights ahead of him next year. He must fight to secure a Democratic legislature and then fight for a seat in the Senate. However, he will fail in his first effort, and there will be no second battle.

The Paris exposition officials now understand the dilemma of the last Cleveland administration. They also have to handle a deficit instead of a surplus.

Colorado is slowly recovering from the silver insanity. Bryan's plurality dropped from 135,000 in 1896 to only 29,000 in 1900

ANOTHER HITCH.

Again there is a halt in the preliminary steps to the negotiations of a treaty of peace with China. England wants the joint agreement modified before she will give her assent thereto. Her demand is not yet made public; but it spells delay, as it must be submitted to all the governments interested, and obtain their assent before the preliminary agreement can be signed by the ministers at Pekin.

Any delay is regrettable, at least so far as the United States is concerned, for not only this government, but the people of this country, desire the present anomalous conditions in China to be brought to an end as speedily as possible. What scheme of self-interest England or any other nation may have in delaying negotiations no one can tell at present; but if all the powers had been as frank in stating their real position and their full purpose as has the United States, the peace treaty negotiations would be now well under way, if not actually completed.

EXPORTS TO NEW POSSESSIONS.

Exports from the United States to Cuba, Porto Rico, and the Philippine, Hawaiian and Samoan islands will aggregate $50,000,000 in the year 1900, against $41,000,000 in 1899, $19,000,000 in 1898, and $17,000,000 in 1897. This enormous growth is shared by each of the islands named, but is especially apparent in the case of Porto Rico, to which the exports in the year 1900, under the new Porto Rican act, will show an increase of about 50 per cent, as compared with last year, and 100 per cent. as compared with preceding years.

The above figures are necessarily estimates as far as they relate to November and December of the present year, but a study of the actual figures of the preceding months of 1900 and the corresponding months of 1899 and 1898, justifies an estimate which brings the exports to Porto Rico in the calendar year 1900 up to $5,400,000; to Cuba, $26,000,000; to the Philippines, $3,500,000; to the Hawaiian islands, $15,000,00, and to the Samoan islands and Guam, $200,000.

In every case our exports to these islands in the year 1900 will exceed those in preceding years. To Cuba the exports of the year will be double the average annual exports to that island, except during the fiscal years 1892, 1893 and 1894, when the reciprocity treaty with Spain largely increased our sales to that island. To Porto Rico the exports of the year will be double those of any preceding year, except 1899, and will exceed that year by 50 per cent. To the Hawaiian islands, estimating figures of the closing months of the year upon those of the earlier months and other obtainable data, the exports of the year are more than double those of any preceding year, except 1899. To the Philippines the figures for 1900 will be double those of 1899 and more than 10 times the highest fifure in any earlier year. To the Samoan islands the total will be double that of any preceding year.

MOORE'S ALMANAC.

We are now able, for the first time, to offer a really scientific almanac to our readers. It is compiled by Willis L. Moore, chief of the government weather bureau at Washington. It is not a weather fake, but an almanac in the true sense of the term. The information on cyclones, tornadoes, frost, movement of storms, and other scientific matters of the kind, is worth its cost many times over. Then it also explains fully the system of government weather forecasts, explains the daily weather maps, etc. Only 20 cents, postpaid. Address "Book Department, The Blade, Toledo, Ohio."

"COMMISSIONER" DEGETAU.

There seems to be same question as to the exact status of Mr. Degetau, of Porto Rico, at Washington. Each regularly-organized territory is entitled to a delegate, who is given a seat in the House of Representatives. He has the right to speak on any question, but he has no vote. This is the status of Delegates Wilson, of Arizona; Perea, of New Mexico; Flynn, of Oklahoma, and Wilcox, of Hawaii.

But Porto Rico is not a territory, in the accepted technical meaning of that word, nor does the Porto Rican act provide for the election of a delegate. It provides that every two years the qualified voters of the island shall choose "a resident commissioner to the United States, who shall be entitled to official recognition as such by all departments." It does not state that he shall have a seat in the House of Representatives, but it provides for him the same salary as that of a Representative or Delegate. What to do with Mr. Degetau is thus seen to be a somewhat puzzling question. Probably he will be given the status of a territorial delegate, with a seat in the House—though it would seem necessary for Congress to pass a special act to put the question beyond doubt.

HILL FOR PRESIDENT.

David Bennett Hill can not get over the idea that as Grover Cleveland stepped from the governorship of New York to the Presidency, he can perform a similar feat. His chief lieutenant, Mayor McGuire, of Syracuse, announces that Hill will be a candidate for the Democratic nomination in 1904. While McGuire admits that Hill "is less strong than he might be" in the state organization, he asserts him to be "wonderfully strong in the nation." All of which would be very interesting if it were true.

The Democrats from the Mississippi westward have a most thorough antagonism for New York Democrats of all stripes. They hate Croker and Hill impartially. They have no use for any Democrat of note now prominent in the Empire state. If they abandon the twice-defeated fallacies of Bryanism, and support an eastern Democrat for the Presidency, it is certain it will not be a New York man, and especially not David B. Hill.

The world's supply of rubber is short, and will be so for years. It is now proposed that the cultivation of the rubber tree be tested in the Philippines. If it proves a success, it will be a source of wealth to the islands.

The two wings of the national capital may now be considered well balanced, with Towne and Tillman in the Senate and Sulzer and Lentz in the House.

Why have the Democratic papers stopped howling about the dangers of imperialism? Is not the Republic traveling to destruction now as it was a few weeks ago?

May 1 next will be a great day at the antipodes. The first session of the Australan parliament will commence and the new confederation's government will begin work. The day will be made one of great jubilation.

COMMENTS OF THE WEEK.

Hay-Pauncefote Treaty.

It has for some time past been generally believed that the Hay-Pauncefote treaty could not pass the senate without amendment, and, therefore, no surprise has been occasioned by the adoption of the Davis amendment to the treaty. This amendment inserts at the end of section 5 of article 2 of the treaty a provision that none of the stipulations contained in that and the four immediately preceding sections shall apply to measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own forces the defense of the United States and the maintenance of public order. The amendment was adopted by a heavy majority, the vote being 65 to 17. The size of the vote in favor of the Davis amendment has encouraged the movers of other amendments, and it is not unlikely that they will be heard from. It has now been made plain to the advocates of the treaty that it is only by making important concessions in the way of modifying the treaty that they can hope to save it. In the effort to attain this end it is possible that the article inviting the adhesion of other powers to the treaty may be stricken out, and that an amendment may be adopted declaring that the Clayton-Bulwer treaty will be regarded as superseded by the amended Hay-Pauncefote convention.

China's Great Seal.

A Pekin dispatch states that the dowager empress has empowered Li Hung Chang to take the great seal of the empire from the forbidden city and use it for his communications. The venerable viceroy will do well to prosecute an immediate search for the seal. Even at this early date, there is good prospect of finding it in the British or Berlin museum. The business of looting seems to have been the principal business of Europeans since the occupation of Pekin. During all the time of negotiation about the terms to be presented to the Chinese commissioners, systematic robbery of public and private places has gone on with little interruption, except in the quarters controlled by the Americans and Japanese. The firm and just note of General Chaffee protesting against the removal of the ancient astronomical instruments from the Pekin observatory reveals the extent of the absorption of property by the armies of occupation.

Widely Separated Fighting.

The guerrilla fighting in South Africa is confusing to those who do not have maps of the country convenient for reference, for the three scenes are separate and distinct fields. Reddersburg, where De Wet and Knox are fighting, is located south of Bloemfontein in the Orange Free State. De Wet's force is not a large one, a body of raiders, remarkable for mobility and thoroughly acquainted with the country. Noongedacht, the scene of the battle between Clements and Delarey, is twenty-two miles to the north of Johannesburg. Delarey's force is about 3,000, raiders like those of De Wet. Koomatipoort, where the British garrison is awaiting an attack, is located on the Portuguese border.

One may sympathize with the Boers, and admire them for their courage, but it is not apparent that they gain anything by a continuation of this system of warfare. Kruger's visit to Europe must have shown them the extreme hopelessness of securing intervention from any source. Even with minor successes in these guerrilla raids, they accomplish nothing. When they take prisoners they have to release them in a few days, because they can not hamper themselves with them. The percentage of losses inflicted on the British is insignificant when it is considered in relation to the whole. What is a loss of fifteen or twenty men killed in an army of 210,000?

The problem of sustenance and remounting is one that the Boers can never solve. Sustenance is possible, but every time a Boer pony is killed they lose a man, for a Boer without his pony is as useless as a sailor without a ship. Experts estimate that a cavalry force in active service must be remounted four times a year. England is taking from America for remounts in South Africa 18,000 horses a month. The Boers have no chance to secure remounts except those within their country, and this resource must be well drained. They have made a remarkable fight, are still making a remarkable fight, but exhaustion will defeat the bravest of men. They are fighting against the inevitable. One may admire the bravery and the hardihood, but, even these facts can not conceal the uselessness of the sacrifices which are being made.

Question of Santa Claus.

The approach of the Christmas holidays has renewed the discussion as to whether or not Santa Claus is a strictly proper person. Of late years the old gentleman's character in some quarters has been so severely criticised that it would seem he must eventually be banished from the homes where dwell latter day scientific children. There are people who would banish not only Santa Claus, but fairy tales from the nursery, on the ground that they are untruthful. In defense of the venerable old gentleman the Baltimore Herald says:

"Santa Claus is the figurative impersonation of the spirit of joyful, glad giving of Christmas day. While the parents do his acts, they are merely his agents, and not he at all. A child, at the age in which Santa Claus is a real thing, thinks almost entirely with his imagination. He would be unable to comprehend the Yuletide spirit if told in words of fact, and will miss it altogether if he can not catch it through his imagination, which is led to accept the spirit in the form of Santa Claus."

November Exports.

The movement of cotton abroad in November was not as large as it was in October, but it was still heavily in excess of the movement in November a year ago, and to this reason is due the gain in the value of leading exports shown for the month over the same period of last year. The export for November of cotton was 841,846 bales, aggregating 434,205,754 pounds, an amount 19 per cent greater than in November a year ago, but, owing to higher prices ruling, a gain in value of 57 per cent. The exports of cotton, provisions, cattle and mineral oils in November were all smaller than in October, and the gain in breadstuffs exports was a trifling one only. Compared with November a year ago there were larger shipments of provisions, cattle and cotton, but smaller shipments of breadstuffs and oils. The net result of the movement of the larger staple exports was a decrease in the aggregate value of the five products on which preliminary reports are given from October of 19 per cent, but a gain over November of a year ago of 18 per cent. Compared with November two years ago the decrease was only 2 per cent, accounted for by smaller shipments of breadstuffs. For the eleven months this year breadstuffs exports are 9 per cent smaller than those of 1899, but mineral oils are 14.5 per cent larger, cattle shipments 19 per cent larger and provision exports a fraction of 1 per cent heavier. These gains are, however, all put in the shade by the increase of 63 per cent in value of cotton exports. The net gain in exports of the five products combined is 14 per cent over 1899 and 6 per cent over 1898.

MAKR TWAIN'S DAUGHTER ON CONCERT STAGE.

MISS CLARA CLEMENS.

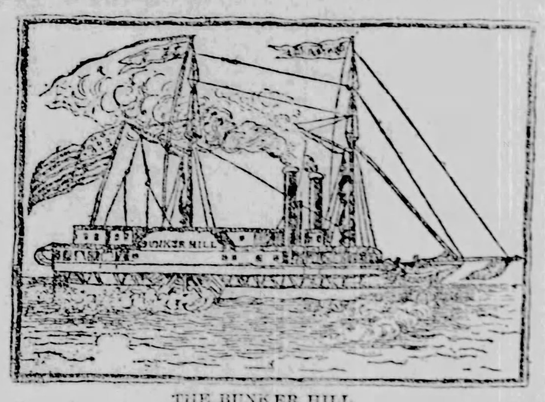
Miss Clara Clemens, daughter of Mark Twain (Samuel L. Clemens), will soon make her appearance on the concert stage, after a course of hard study in Europe. She prefers to sing first in her native land, not because she wishes to use her father's fame as a stepping stone but because she is a thorough American and loves her native land better than all others.

Miss Clemens, whose voice, capable judges say, is charming, studied with Mananne Brandt and with Mme. Blanche Marchesi.

The "Twain" family for the past ten years or more "have lived in every part of Europe, except the United States," as one of their servants put it. All the girls are pretty and vivacious. They have some of their father's sense of humor, though not all.

Mark Twain is immensely fond of his girls, and enters into the preparations for his daughter Clara's debut with a boyish enthusiasm. He discusses styles of programs and modes of feminine evening dress with her with huge interest. In fact he is much more interested than he was over his own first appearance on any stage.—New York Journal.

OLD-TIME STEAMER ON LAKE ERIE



THE BUNKER HILL.

Of all the changes that half a century has brought to Cleveland, few are more striking than the changes in the way of getting to and from the metropolis of the state from the east and west. Everything and everybody came and went by boat in those days save where the old stage coach lines took them.

It was the harbor that made Cleveland. In the palmy days of the lake boats, before there were any railroads, the harbor was the center of all the life and all the business of the city. The boats, and their comings and goings, were the things that were talked about and business and social interests centered in and depended on them.

Perhaps the most popular of all the old time boats was the old Bunker Hill, that ran between Cleveland and Buffalo. She was one of the wonders of her day. Charles Holland has the original of the picture of the Bunker Hill that is here reproduced, and has also a wealth of recollections of the old days centering about the picture. Mr. Holland was in the coal business in Cleveland thirty-five years ago, and was one of the best known coal operators in the city until he retired.

"I came down from Bunkio in the old Bunker Hill in 1850," he said to a reporter, "and I remember the famous old craft very well. She was the finest and fartest boat on the lake in her day. R. G. Winslow, of this city, owned her. She used to carry a band and people used to go out of their way to travel on her. That was before the day of the present style of side-wheelers with walking beams. She was built with the old-fashioned high pressure engines, that made so much noise by the exhaust of steam that she could be heard for a number of miles across the lake when she was going at full speed.

"The Bunker Hill was built at what was then called Black River, where Lorain now is. She was about 200 feet long and more handsomely fitted up than any other boat on the lake. She used to leave Buffalo at 6 o'clock in the evening and get to Cleveland about 4 o'clock the next afternoon. That was wonderful speed in those days, although now the boats make the trip in half the time or less. Before the railroads were built the boats used to get all the business, and they made a great deal of money. The railroads scolled the passenger business for the boats and it was years before the lake boats made any money by carrying passengers.

"After the railroads were built the steamer wharves ceased to be the centers of life and activity they had been. The Bunker Hill was one of the last of her class of steamers.

"After this picture of the Bunker Hill was taken, she was altered by having her bowsprit cut off and her cabin extended clear to the bow, which made her look much more like a modern craft. The old-fashioned bow, like those on the pictures of the Spanish vessels of ages ago, seems very odd now in comparison with the lake boats of modern times."—Cleveland Leader.

QUEEN VICTORIA'S SKETCH OF HER FIRST CHILD.

This picture was drawn by the Queen in 1841, a few months after the birth of her first child, the Dowager Empress of Germany, whose sixtieth birthday anniversary was celebrated last month. Queen Victoria had a fondness for sketching in her younger days, and a favorite subject was her children. The one herewith reproduced is one of the few that ever got out of the royal palace. The picture shows the child-princess in the arms of her nurse.

Pure Whiskey

Direct from Distiller to Consumer

$3.20 FOUR Full Quarts, Express Paid.

Saves Middlemen's Profits. Prevents Adulteration.

FOR thirty-three years we have distilled the best whiskey made and sold it direct to consumers. We have thousands of customers in every state and want more; we therefore make the following

Proposition:

We will send you four full quart bottles of Hayner's Seven Year Old Double Copper Distilled Rye for $3.20, Express Prepaid. We ship in plain packages—no marks to indicate contents. When you get it and test it, if it isn't satisfactory return it at our expense, and we will return your $3.20. Such whiskey cannot be purchased elsewhere for less than $5.00.

REFERENCES:—Third Nat'l Bank, Dayton, State Nat'l Bank, St. Louis, or any of the Express Companies.

WRITE TO NEAREST ADDRESS.

THE HAYNER DISTILLING CO.

226-232 West Fifth St., DAYTON, OHIO.

305-307 S. Seventh St., ST. LOUIS, MO.

P. S.—Orders for Ariz., Col., Cal., Idaho, Mont., Nev., N. Mex., Ore., Utah., Wash., Wyo., must be for 30 qts., by freight, prepaid.

We guarantee above firm will do as they agree.—ED.

Publishers' Column

MOORE'S METEOROLOGICAL ALMANAC AND WEATHER GUIDE FOR 1901.

This valuable work has been compiled by Willis L. Moore, Chief of the United States Weather Bureau, Washington. It is invaluable to the farmer, the horticulturist, the shipper, the mariner, the merchant, the tourist, the health seeker, and for those who wish to learn the art of weather forecasting. Printed on good paper, large type, and is brim full of valuable information. Order early. Price to Blade readers—20c.

NEW SILVERWARE OFFER REDUCED PRICES

As the holiday season will soon be here, we have arranged to supply our subscribers (and our subscribers only, remember) with a high grade of silver plated ware, which is especially suitable for Christmas, birthday or wedding gifts.

These goods are made of the finest quality of nickel silver, plated with pure silver, and are guaranteed by the manufacturers both in style and plate to be equal to the highest possible standard of excellence. The manufacturer's stamp is on each article ,and if you do not find the goods to be exactly as represented return them and we will cheerfully refund your money.

The patterns are a new and stylish design. As we anticipate large sales during the holiday season, we make our announcement now, and ask that you get your orders in early. These goods are the best we have ever sold, and our prices much less than the regular retail rates.

PRICES.

½ dozen teaspoons	$1.60
1 dozen teaspoons	2.80
½ dozen tablespoons	$2.80
1 dozen tablespoons	5.20
½ dozen knives or forks	2.35
1 dozen knives or forks	4.20
½ dozen knives and forks (in one piece)	4.10
½ doz a dessert spoons	2.50
1 dozen dessert spoons	4.60
Sugar shell	.75
Cold meat fork	.85
Pickle fork, long	.80
Berry spoon	1.35
Mustard Spoon	.30
Preserve spoon	1.00
Jelly knife	1.00
Sugar tongs	1.00

These goods are sent by registered mail or express, all charges prepaid. Only subscribers to The Blade can buy at these prices, but they can buy as much as they like.

Blade Watches by Mail.

Many years experience in supplying subscribers with watches by mail at less than retail prices, has taught us that cheap goods and odd brands are unsatisfactory. There are other good watches, but that our readers may know in advance what they are buying, we make our new list herewith submitted, entirely of Walthams and Elgins. These well known names, coupled with the endorsement of The Blade, will leave no room for doubt in the minds of those who wish to order. In this list we have endeavored to meet the views of all classes, beginning with a cheap watch for common use of boys or men, and running up to better and more reliable grades. These watches are all stem set and stem wind, and all gold filled cases, are fitted with solid gold bows, hinges and thumb pieces. Write us if you desire other or special styles not listed below. We send these watches, postpaid by registered mail on receipt of price named. Address The Blade, Toledo, Ohio.

No. 0.

Waltham or Elgin open face, 7-jeweled nickel works. Case is ore silver, a composition metal of high grade. Looks and wears like silver, screw back and face, with heavy plate crystal. Price delivered by mail $5.20.

No. 11.

Case same as No. 9, fitted with Elgin or Waltham 15-jeweled movement. Price only $8.00.

No. 17.

Waltham or Elgin 20-year gold filled case, guaranteed to wear as stated, screw back. Works same as No. 9. Price, open face, by mail, $10.00; same in hunting case, $12.00.

No. 23.

Same as No. 17, except works will be 15 jewel. Price, open face, screw back, $11.50; same, hunting case, $14.00.

No. 25.

Ladies' solid gold hunting case Waltham or Elgin, 14-karat gold, 7-jewel Waltham or Elgin, stem wind and set. This same watch The Blade has sold for more than ten years, and we know them to be satisfactory. Price by mail, $20.00.

No. 27.

Ladies' hunting case, 20-year, gold filled. Works exactly same as No. 25, and case just as good for all purposes. We will send this watch postpaid for $11.00.

No. 33—For Girls.

Works same as above, in open, 20-year filled case. Just the thing for girls or ladies who desire an open face. Price by mail, $11.50.

5 Year Guaranteed Plated Chains.

No. 1—Men's small link, 11 inch	$2.00
No. 2—Men's medium size link	1.75
No. 3—Ladies' gold slide chain, 48 inches	2.25

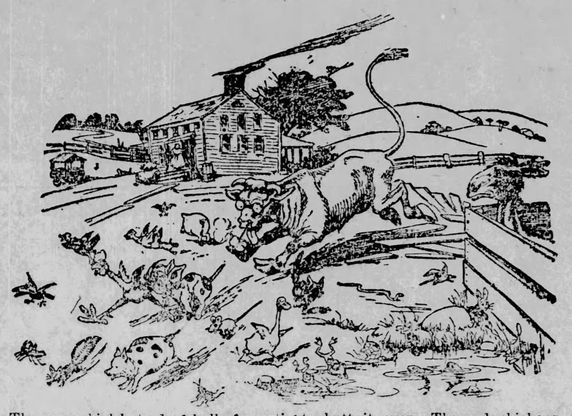
Presidential Cook Book.

Probably the best cook book ever published in this country bears the above title. It is the most popular, has had the largest sale, and is the most practical one for general family use. The price—thousands have sold for two and three dollars each—has placed it beyond the reach of the majority of housekeepers. An edition has been issued in cheap form, with paper covers, containing the same information as the original. It is printed with large type, on good paper, and answers every purpose for use of the ordinary housewife. We have secured a few hundred copies, which we offer to Blade subscribers, postpaid by mail for 45 cents, or we will send a copy free to any person remitting us one dollar for the Weekly Blade one year, and asking for a copy of the book as a premium.

Address with remittance in current funds.

THE BLADE, TOLEDO, O.

CRIMSON GOGGLES ON A BULL.



The proverbial hatred of bulls for articles of red color has almost driven John Anschutz, a Stowe township, Pa., dairyman, out of business. Boys entered his premises, on Sunday night, and adjusted a set of crimson goggles on the eyes of his black and white bull, Dexter. When the animal woke up in the morning he saw nothing but great stretches of carmine landscape. Dexter manifests extreme antagonism for the smallest patch of red, but when he cast his eyes about and saw nothing but the hated color in all directions, his anger reached a fury. He looked at the other cattle, but they were all brindles. His little sister, whom he had seen only a few hours before in her ermine coat, had donned in a single night a covering of scarlet hue. He looked at the straw-stack in the rear of the barn, but it was no longer the great yellow mass, being instead the color of "bloody butcher" corn.

The grass was no longer green, and he refused to eat. The barn was red and the fence was red. The girl who came to the farm yard to milk the cows was red, and she carried a red bucket and a stool with three red legs.

At any other time Dexter might have excused the color of her cheeks and forgiven it as a maidenly blush, but he could overlook nothing of that sort now.

With a loud bellow he made a desperate dash at the red straw-stack and tried to butt it over. The red chickens, the red pigs, the red ducks, the red geese fled before his awful onslaught. The weather boarding of the red barn was shivered into crimson splinters, and the milkmaid with the red dress and the red hair ran back into the red springhouse in terror, leaving the red bucket and the stool with the three red legs to be trampled deep into the red earth by the hoofs of the enraged Dexter.

The bull made several charges around the yard, and then he assaulted the red fence. The red panels gave way with a crash, and Dexter rushed out into the orchard and fled under the red trees. He crossed a meadow and came suddenly upon a creek, but to his horror the stream was blood-colored. On the opposite side he saw a little red man with a red gun shooting red rabbits. Red birds flew through the underbrush. Red fish swam through the red stream. Great red clouds frowned from the red sky.

Dexter made another dash for liberty, and ran bellowing around the farm until almost exhausted. After an hour of terrible misery he was found and the red goggles were removed. He was too much fatigued to make any attempt to escape, and was quite peaceable when he saw his master. Mr. Anschutz says he will prosecute the offenders, and has offered a reward of $5 for the arrest of the guilty parties. The bull is still suffering from the effects of his terrible chase.—Chicago Tribune.

CUT PAPER PATTERNS, READ THE OFFER:

These patterns will be mailed to any address for only 10 cents each. In ordering, address "Pattern Department, Blade, Toledo, Ohio," enclose 10 cents silver for each pattern wanted (do not send stamps if you can obtain other funds.) State both title and number of pattern.

Full description and directions—as the number of yards and material required, the number and names of the different pieces in the pattern, how to cut and fit each pattern, with a picture of the garment to go by.

1963—Laundry Waist.

Sizes for 12, 14 and 16 years. A pretty waist for girls of 12, 14 and 16 is the "Laundry." It has a broad, square collar that is becoming to young girls. The body is full at the belt in front, and opens over a vest. A plain back is given, with under

arm forms. The waist fastens in front and has a two-piece sleeve. Blue poplinette is the material selected for this dress and it is trimmed with dark tan cambroidery. Velling would be equally pretty. Any favorite gored or circle skirt may be used with this model.

1945—Byrd Jacket Waist.

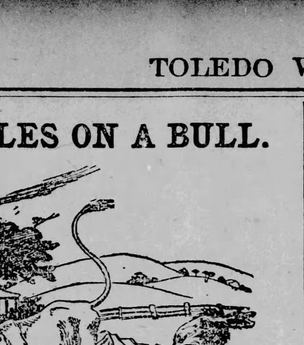
Sizes for 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. The tight fitting jacket is again very much in fashion. It is cut with a broad shouldered effect and has a

full "spring" over the bust. The "Byrd" is an excellent example of a fashionable short street jacket. It is fitted in front with two darts and fastens a trifle to the left. It is slashed over the hips and in the back. A deep tailor collar is sashed in front. The material is royal blue satin Venetian, trimmed with gold braid and a narrow binding of artillery red velvet.

DO NOT FAIL to give the NUMBER of pattern, and MEASUREMENTS. It will save trouble and delay.

1669—Lansing Waist.

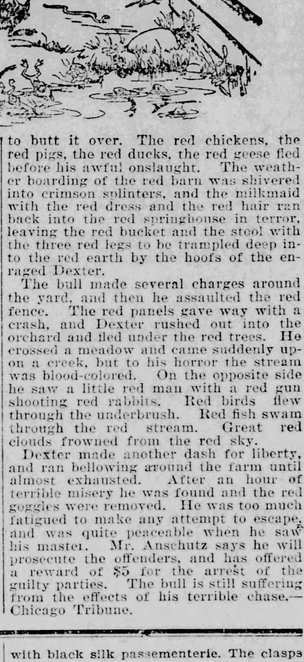
Sizes for 34, 36, 38 and 40 inches bust measure. The fashion for plain, smooth cloths is still prevalent, but dark colors are the most stylish. An excellent design for a cloth waist is shown in the "Lansing." It is of brown, with a deep round yoke of buff cloth, carrying a black circle. The body of the waist is perfectly plain in the back, and double breasted in front. It is scalloped at the opening and at the yoke, and it is trimmed with black silk passementerie. The clasps



are of the passementerie and the stock and girdle are of black velvet.

1932—Tanton Frock.

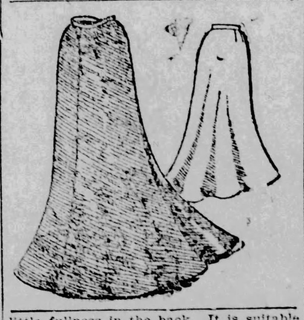
Sizes for 10 and 12 years. A very neat little dress for girls of 10 and 12 years is the "Tanton." It is a pretty yoke design, with a frill set around the arm hole



The skirt has three gores, with but little fullness, laid in a small turned in plait at the back. There is a lining for the waist and a two-piece sleeve. Any wool goods will look well in this design. The model is of red poplinette, trimmed with bands of velvet ribbon, and lined with red French cambric.

1908—Ashby Skirt.

Sizes, medium and large. The ever popular circular design, cut long all around, fitted at the hips with darts, and has a



little fullness in the back. It is suitable for any of the favorite gown fabrics, and may be trimmed simple or elaborate, as desired.

THE MAINE WRECK.

Havana, Dec. 17.—Bids were opened Saturday for the work of raising the battleship Maine. Five bids were received. The highest bid was made by Mr. Cavanagh, who offered to raise the vessel and deliver it to the United States government for $735,000. The next highest bid—$639,000—was made by Frank Pidgeon, of New York.

The lowest bid received was that of the Schwartz Foundry company, who offered to do the work for $80,000. Some of these bids were irregular, as they were not accompanied by checks for $1,000, and some of the bidders did not agree to return the vessel to the government.

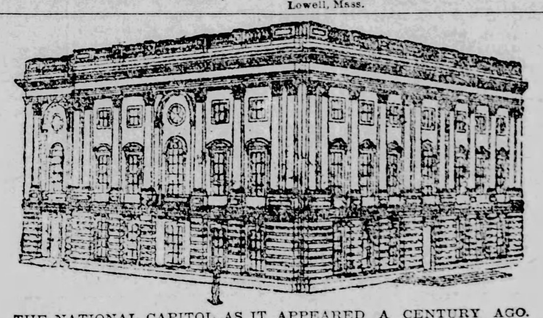
Nobody offered to raise the vessel for nothing. One bid was also received for the work of raising the Alfonzo XII. No award has been made up to the present.

THE CAPITAL'S CENTENNIAL

Elaborate Ceremonies at the Official Celebration, Dec. 12.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The national capital is in gala attire to-day in celebration of the one hundredth anniversary of the establishment of the seat of federal government at Washington, and for the time being the wheels of government have ceased revolving, business, public and private, is suspended, while the President and his cabinet, the Senate and House of Representatives, the federal judiciary, the governors of many states, and a great concourse of citizens and visitors join in the elaborate festivities of the day. Perhaps never again will this generation witness such a significant gathering of the executive heads of the states and of the chief executive of the nation. One hundred years ago the transfer of the United States government was made from Philadelphia to Washington, and the site previously selected by President Washington was taken possession of by the various branches of government, President and Mrs. Adams driving over from Philadelphia, the Senate and House holding their sessions here for the first time.

For months Washington has been preparing for a fitting commemoration of this interesting historical event, and the celebration to-day is designed to bring out the development which a century has



THE NATIONAL CAPITOL AS IT APPEARED A CENTURY AGO.

The national capitol of a century ago was a much more modest structure than the capitol of to-day. However, the old capitol is retained in the present structure. The building of 100 years ago is now that part of the present structure which is surmounted by the magnificent dome.

brought forth, both in the capital and in the nation. From an early hour to-day the streets were filled with an eager and expectant throng.

Pennsylvania avenue was a blaze of color from end to end, the business houses being hung with bunting, flags and patriotic devices. The great public buildings added their share to the brilliancy of the spectacle. From the front of the treasury radiated an enormous sunburst of red, white and blue. Further on, the War, State and Navy departments and the Department of Justice were resplendent in the national colors. At the other end of Pennsylvania avenue the massive front of the capitol was hung with long streamers, and from the dome fluttered a myriad of flags, while the front of the huge Postoffice department was covered with the national colors.

The program of the day began with a reception at 10 o'clock by President McKinley and members of his cabinet to the governors of the states and territories at the executive mansion. This was followed by the unveiling in the east room of the model of the proposed enlarged executive mansion, which is to be a lasting memorial of to-day's celebration.

The other events of the day were a parade from the White House to the capital, participated in by the President and other dignitaries and visiting and district militia; joint exercises by the Senate and House in the hall of the House of Representatives.

To-night a reception will be tendered the governors of the states and territories at the Corcoran Gallery of Art.

The great public spectacle of the day was the parade and escort to the President, from the White House to the east front of the capitol, where the President reviewed the marching thousands. At the head of the parade rode Lieutenant General Nelson A. Miles, chief marshal, in full uniform, mounted on a superb charger. His staff included Brigadier General Breckinridge and many other prominent officers, mounted and in uniform, presenting a brilliant appearance. The military forces participating included artillery, cavalry, marines and sailors. First came the Second United States artillery, Lieutenant Colonel Myrick commanding, and three battalions of artillery from other regiments. The Fifth United States cavalry, in their stunning uniforms and flowing yellow plumes, acted as the immediate escort of the President. Under Colonel William A. Rafferty the troopers were assembled along the north curb of Pennsylvania avenue fronting the White House, and as the President appeared the cavalry salute was given and the troopers wheeled in columns of platoons and swept down the avenue toward the capitol. With the President were the various members of his cabinet, in carriages. Then came the National Guard of the District of Columbia, three regiments strong, General Harries commanding.

Vieing with the presidential party in the interest excited was the notable procession of governors of the states and territories, with their staffs and military escorts. This gave a touch of individual interest to the people from many states, and the chief executives were warmly welcomed all along the line of march. The governors marched in the order of the admission of the states to the Union, Governor Tunnell, of Delaware, coming first.

Following the governors came the Grand Army of the Republic, Spanish war veterans, the Old Guards and specially invited guests.

The parade moved down Pennsylvania avenue between two densely packed masses of humanity. As the parade reached the capitol it swung northward by C street and Delaware avenue to the broad plaza on the east front. The carriages of the President and members of the cabinet had moved ahead, the President taking position in the reviewing stand directly at the easterly entrance of the capitol.

He stood under a little canopy of red, white and blue, surrounded by his cabinet associates and prominent men of the Senate, House of Representatives and various walks of public life. As the various divisions of the procession passed the reviewing stand the regulation salute to the President was given and returned. At the close of the review the various organizations departed, only the United States cavalry regiment remaining to escort the President back to the White House. The review was followed by an impressive gathering of the President and cabinet, the members of the Senate and House, and the judges of the United States supreme court, in the hall of the House of Representatives, where joint exercises were held commemorating the day. Speaker Henderson called the assemblage to order and Senator Frye, president pro tem of the Senate, presided over the proceedings.

Representative Sereno E. Payne, of New York, next delivered an interesting account of the controversy that finally resulted in the location of the capitol city on the Potomac, going at some length into the struggles that were made by the different states for the honor and quoting from debates in Congress to show the feeling which the question aroused. Particular reference was made to the political shrewdness displayed by Hamilton and Jefferson in connection with its final location. Hamilton's financial measure for the assumption by the nation of the debts incurred by the states in maintaining the revolutionary war had failed, and Hamilton, believing that the very existence of the Union depended upon its reconsideration and passage, was making strenuous endeavors to accomplish that result. Virginia and the south had voted against it. Hamilton proposed a compromise. Jefferson should help pass the Assumption act and Hamilton as a quid pro quo should bring over enough votes to put though the act locating the seat of government on the Potomac. How this was brought about Mr. Payne told in Jefferson's own words, and added:

"This incident removes some of the glamour which time has thrown over the acts of the 'Fathers,' and reveals them to us as human beings, no better than the politicians of to-day. Surely it is not the highest type of legislative integrity that characterizes this historical episode, but we can forgive this bit of 'logrolling' when we reflect that it saved a threatened rupture of the Union."

Senator Louis E. McComas, of Maryland, in a brief address sketched the "history of the first century of the national capital." He drew a picture of the scene from Capitol Hill, one hundred years ago, when President Adams first visited the place and spoke of the Capitol city's uncertain growth, the demand for its removal, and finally after the Civil War the dawning of a day of fulfillment. "The future of the United States and its capitol" was the topic assigned to Senator John W. Daniel, of Virginia. The senator's address was largely an eloquent and patriotic essay. Ancient history he said, had no precedent for the United States of America, and modern history has no parallel. The United States contains the more diversified and assimilative element that ever composed a great nation. Our domain is the best located. Our longevity projects itself to the farthest reach of human speculation, and the future is gorgeous with every sign of hope and courage. The senator referred to the hearty feelings of friendship the people have for each other, to the valor of the American soldier and to the strength of our electoral system as exhibited by the experience of over a century. Our only strife, he said, was over the heritage which empire foisted upon our ancestors against their will and which the republic has removed forever.

An historical oration by Senator Hoar and one by Mr. Richardson, of Tennessee, on the "Transfer of the National Capital from Philadelphia" followed.

BREAK-UP PREDICTED.

Havana Dec. 15.—Predictions are freely made, especially among the conservatives, that the Cuban constitutional convention will break up in a wrangle over the question of suffrage, the issue between universal and restricted suffrage being sharply drawn. The eastern delegates and the radicals from the western part of the island advocate giving the blacks the right to vote. The convention committees are also wrangling as to the Presidential qualifications and as to the form of government, some advocating the federal system, and others the unitary or centralized system.

It is reported that General Maximo Gomez and Senor Juan Gualberto Gomez have declared that the only practical way to drive the Americans from Cuba is to fight. These two men, who for a long time were bitterly hostile, are now friends, and Gen. Gomez declares that he is entirely with his old enemy in sentiment as to the future of Cuba.

The Havana municipal council is sparring over the plans for constructing sewers and paving the city, under the contract of Mr. Daniel J. Dady. Wednesday night the council declared that the plans prepared by the government engineers were quite distinct from those prepared by Mr. Dady's representatives, and accepted the former. At last evening's meeting Wednesday's vote was reversed, with the result that the subject is again open.

NEW WATERFALL.

Winnipeg, Man., Dec. 17.—Canadian Pacific railroad engineers who have returned from an exploring expedition in the region of the Rocky Mountains, report the discovery of waterfalls, one dropping from a height of 1,300 feet, also several glaciers. One of the latter rivals the great glacier of the Selkirks in area and surpasses it in magnificence of its surroundings of mountain lakes of unusual beauty, and of lofty peaks, which will offer great temptation to mountain climbers. These hitherto unknown marvels of nature can be made accessible by the construction of trails, and these will be built early next spring.

Easy to Take
Easy to Operate
Because purely vegetable—yet thorough, prompt, healthful, satisfactory—
Hood's Pills

Stops Tickling

All serious lung troubles begin with a tickling in the throat. You can stop this at first in a single night; a dose at bedtime puts the throat at complete rest.

Ayer's Cherry Pectoral

The cure is so easy now, it's astonishing any one should run the risk of pneumonia and consumption, isn't it? For asthma, croup, whooping-cough, bronchitis, consumption, hard colds, and for coughs of all kinds, Ayer's Cherry Pectoral has been the one great family medicine for sixty years.

Three sizes: 25c., 50c., $1.00.

If your druggist cannot supply you, send us one dollar and we will express a large bottle to you, all charges prepaid. Be sure you give us your nearest express office. Address, J. C. AYER CO., Lowell, Mass.

LONDON COMMENT

On the Adoption of the Davis Amendment by the Senate.

London, Dec. 14.—The adoption by the United States Senate of the Davis amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty yesterday is evidently regarded as far too weighty a matter for hurried comment by the London leading journals. Accordingly the Times and most other papers will postpone until to-morrow their editorial treatment of the question in its present phase. The Daily Chronicle, however, publishes a short note, in which it says:

"The news is very serious indeed. It means, in a word, that the jingoes and Anglophobes of the United States Senate have triumphed, and that we are back again to-day where we were at the time of the Venezuelan imbroglio and President Cleveland's insolent and provocative speech. The better feeling manifested during the Spanish-American war has been shaken by pro-Boer sympathies, and it is now swamped by self-interest. The Americans intend to fortify the canal in spite of the treaty engagement to the contrary. We cannot possibly stand by and allow the Clayton-Bulwer treaty to be thus imperiously set aside. The good relations between the two countries must of necessity be gravely menaced. This is the outcome of Mr. McKinley's re-election. Worse could hardly have happened had Mr. Bryan had been elected."

The Daily Graphic remarks:

"We have no doubts as to the result. Anglo-American statesmanship will find an amicable solution of the difficulty created by American jingoes. We fail to see, however, how the Clayton-Bulwer treaty can be got rid of without the Mosquito territories reverting to Great Britain."

The Standard observes:

"It is more of a rebuff for President McKinley's executive than for Great Britain. England cannot possibly accept the Hay-Pauncefote treaty thus amended, and it would be insulting to the people and government of the United States to assume that they would either denounce the Clayton-Bulwer treaty without offering an equitable equivalent or compensate the gross illegality of disregarding it.

"There will be time enough to consider the abrogation of the treaty when Washington formally tenders a suggestion which would certainly be approached by Great Britain with every desire to assist the United States to carry out a project highly beneficial to American commerce, but it cannot be supposed that we would abandon our treaty rights without solid consideration in return."

The Morning Post after contending that England in negotiating the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, was acting in the interests of all the maritime powers, says:

"Should the United States denounce the treaty, there is no means known to international law of upholding it. Only one method of inducing a state to accept an obligation of which it is tired is the method of compulsion. That method is out of the question and will hardly be proposed, but it will be open to Great Britain alone, or in conjunction with other maritime states to consider whether another canal, not under the control of the United States may be worth the making. In this matter British interests are identical with the interests of all the maritime powers save the United States."

JURY DISAGREED.

Eldorado, Kan., Dec. 14.—After being out four days, the jury in the case of Jessie Morrison, tried on the charge of

MISS JESSIE MORRISON.

killing Mrs. Olin Castle, reported to Judge Shinn shortly after noon to-day their inability to agree. They stood nine for acquittal and three for conviction. The jury was at once discharged.

The case will now go over to the spring term. Foreman Hewitt said the jury on its first ballot stood nine for acquittal, two for conviction, one not voting. The second ballot stood nine for acquit-

MRS. CLARA WILEY CASTLE.

tal and three for conviction and so the vote remained to the end.

A WINNING BOY.

Earns His Medals by the Use of Good Food

A Vicksburg, Miss., boy, J. E. Smith, corner Grove and Third streets, says: "I have been studying very hard to try and beat my room in examination. I have been eating oatmeal and cream for breakfast all my life. Lately when the hard study began I did not feel well enough to go to school, and there was an examination ahead of me and an exhibition, too.

"I was determined to go through the examination, but felt so sick all the time that I didn't know how to accomplish it. Well, mother saw the Grape-Nuts food advertised, so she bought some and gave it to me for breakfast every morning, and you just ought to see what this food did for me.

"I began to get well at once and grow hearty and fat, in spite of my hard work. Above all that I did beat my room at examination, making a general average that was the highest mark in the room. I am also able to take part in the military drill to-morrow night at the exhibition and will try for the gold medal for general excellence. If you think there is any question about this you can write to Bro. Garbrial, our principal, and he will tell you that it is true."

It is of the greatest importance that parents feed their growing children, during study, on the most nourishing food possible to obtain, and there is no question on this score regarding Grape-Nuts, for the food is compounded on the elements selected from the grains which go to quickly make and rebuild the brain and nerve centers. Any parent can prove this statement by feeding the children on Grape-Nuts. Obtained from any first-class grocer.

$2.75 BUYS A $5.00 DRESS PATTERN

For $2.75 we furnish a full dress pattern of six yards of genuine 42-inch Pierola Two Tone Mercerized Crepon, your choice of colorings, goods that retail everywhere at $5.00 per yard. **SEND NO MONEY** Cut this ad out, mention No. 906, and we will send you the six yards, and you will pay us $2.75, full purchase price, for all of this fine, stylish, new style PIEROLA MERCERIZED CREPON by express, C. O. D., subject to examination. You can examine the goods at your express office, and if found perfectly satisfactory, exactly as represented, such a dress pattern as you could not buy from your storekeeper at home at less than $6.00, a class of goods that is not offered and cannot be found in country stores at any price, pronounced by everyone the greatest value ever shown in your section, the money refunded. Remember, when they pay the express agent OUR SPECIAL OFFER PRICE $2.75 and express charges. The express charges will average from 25 to 50 cents.

THIS HANDSOME NEW MERCERIZED PIEROLA CREPON is one of the handsomest novelty weight fabrics shown this season, closely resembling the finest and most expensive Henriettas and Cashmeres, and is guaranteed to be absolutely fast color. Comes in Heliotrope and black, gold and black, turquoise and black, black and white, green and black, blue and red, navy and turquoise, green and red, cardinal and black, brown and gold olive and cerise. Also black. Be sure to state color wanted, and give first and second choice, as if we are out of one we can send the other. For more liberal terms, 56 cents per yard extra. We have bought these goods direct from one of the largest mills under a POSITIVE GUARANTEE for quality, and give you the benefit of the manufacturer's rock bottom prices. It is a price based on the actual cost to produce, as we have bought the entire piece lots, in such value as was never before offered by any house. We make this heretofore unheard of price of $2.75 for six yards of this 42-inch goods (a full dress pattern). It is a price based on the actual cost to produce, as we have bought the entire piece lots, in such value as was never before offered by any house. We make this heretofore unheard of price of $2.75 for a full 6-yard dress pattern to advertise our big Dress Goods Catalogue, which we send free upon request to everyone interested in cut rate bargains. Over Twelve Dark Belly. When these goods are gone they never again can be offered at the price. Address,

OUR SPECIAL $2.75 PRICE for six yards of this 42-inch goods (a full dress pattern). It is a price based on the actual cost to produce, as we have bought the entire piece lots, in such value as was never before offered by any house. We make this heretofore unheard of price of $2.75 for a full 6-yard dress pattern to advertise our big Dress Goods Catalogue, which we send free upon request to everyone interested in cut rate bargains.

WRITE FOR FREE DRY GOODS CATALOGUE. SEARS, ROEBUCK & CO., CHICAGO.

THE BLADE'S NEW OFFER

New Combination in Dinner Sets.

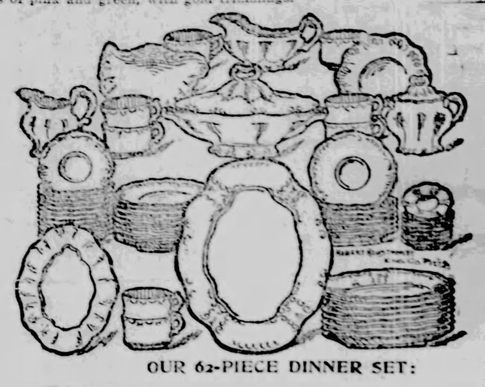
American Semi-Porcelain Ware—Handsome, Durable, Latest Designs in Shapes—Plain White and Decorated.

Every dish useful and practical. Combinations that meet the needs of every housekeeper—every family, small, medium or large, and at wholesale prices.

We offer both plain white and decorated.

Plain white china is very handsome, suitable for any table, any occasion.

Nos. 1, 2 and 3 have beautiful designs of vines and blossoms, in delicate shades of pink and green, with gold trimmings.



OUR 62-PIECE DINNER SET:

DESCRIPTION.

No. 1—45-piece Dinner Set—6 dinner plates, 6 pie plates, 6 cups, 6 saucers, 6 butter chips, 6 fruits, 1 covered vegetable (2 pieces), 1 gravy boat, 1 meat platter, 1 vegetable dish, 1 pickle, 1 sugar bowl (2 pieces), 1 cream jug.

Price, with Weekly Blade, one year:
Plain White $4.25
Decorated 4.29

No. 2—62-piece Dinner Set—8 dinner plates, 12 fruits, 8 pie plates, 8 butter chips, 8 cups, 8 saucers, 1 covered dish (2 pieces), 1 meat platter, 1 sauce boat, 1 vegetable dish, 1 pickle, 1 cream, 1 butter plate, 1 sugar bowl (2 pieces).

Price, with Weekly Blade, one year:
Plain White $5.90
Decorated 6.00

No. 3—100-piece Dinner Set—12 5-inch plates, 12 6-inch plates, 12 7-inch plates, 12 8½-inch plates, 12 9½-inch individual platters, 12 cups, 12 saucers, 1 covered dish, butter (3 pieces), 1 8-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 2 covered dishes (4 pieces), 1 7-inch baker, 1 sauce boat, 1 pickle, 1 sugar bowl (2 pieces), 1 cream, 1 bowl.

Price, with Weekly Blade one year:
Plain White $6.50
Decorated 7.50

No. 4—English 112 piece dinner set—12 5-inch plates, 12 6-inch plates, 12 8-inch plates, 12 7-inch soup plates, 12 fruits, 12 individual butters, 12 cups, 12 saucers, 1 10-inch dish, 1 12-inch dish, 1 8-inch baker, 1 sugar, 1 butter dish, 1 pickle, 1 sauce boat, 1 slop bowl, 2 covered dishes, 1 cream.

Price, with Weekly Blade one year, $8.25.

Notice this set is imported English stone china. The decorations are under the glazing, and the goods are fully guaranteed to craze crackle. This set is made in three styles of decorations, viz: Peacock blue, sage green and claret brown. Be careful to state which color is desired.

This set cannot be purchased for less than $12. Our price only $8.25.

How to Get a Blade Dinner Set Free:

To those desiring to devote a few hours' work getting subscribers for the Weekly Blade, we make the following very liberal offer:

For a club of 10 yearly subscriptions at 50c each, we will give the sender of the club the No. 1 plain white dinner set absolutely free:

For a club of 15, No. 1 Decorated.
For a club of 15, No. 2 Plain White.
For a club of 15, No. 2 Decorated.
For a club of 20, No. 3 Plain White.
For a club of 20, No. 3 Decorated.
For a club of 25, No. 4 English.

A few hours' work among your friends will soon enable you to get one of these fine Dinner Sets free.

General Directions and Information.

Order by number, and specify white or decorated, as the case may be. The goods are carefully packed in a strong barrel, and shipped directly from the importer to the purchaser upon our order. We shall order every package shipped by freight unless otherwise instructed. The receiver pays transportation. From 25 cents to $1, according to distance, will cover freight east of the Missouri river, while it may cost somewhere near $2 to pay freight to points beyond the Rockies. We do not advise shipping by express. Always remit by postoffice money order. If you must send currency, have your letter registered. Address,

THE BLADE,
Toledo, Ohio.

HARRISON'S VIEWS.

Ann Arbor, Mich., Dec. 15.—General Harrison delivered a lecture last evening before the Students' Lecture association of Michigan university upon the relation of the annexed territories and their civilized inhabitants to the United States. It was, General Harrison declared, not intended to be a legal argument on questions brought into discussion by the Porto Rican bill, but rather a popular discussion of some of the views that have been expressed in relation to the students of our annexed territories. The lecturer declared that we had done something out of line with our historical precedents—not in the way of expansion, but in the character of it. He said that we have taken over peoples, rather than lands, as heretofore.

He held the view that the civilized inhabitants of the territories were citizens of the United States, and that the revenue provisions of the constitution relating to taxation for Federal purposes applied to the territories.

The occasion for the recent departure from precedents was found, he said, especially in the character of the inhabitants of the Philippines. As to Porto Rico and Hawaii there would probably have been no occasion for treating them otherwise than we have usually done. The competition of our home products, especially the freedom of the Filipinos to settle in the states, were causes of alarm. These considerations, he said, might very appropriately have had influence when the question of taking over the Philippines was before us, but it was now too late. He agreed that the provisions of the Spanish treaty, and of all treaties were subject to the constitution and could not impair it, and if these islands became part of the United States, in the sense of the constitution their people became citizens and the revenue clause, which was especially under discussion in the Porto Rican case, applied. He argued that the limitations in the constitution upon the powers of Congress, whether expressed in the affirmative or negative form, applied to the exercise of that power in all places; that the very object in the provision requiring duties to be uniform throughout the United States—which was to prevent Congress from establishing anywhere under the jurisdiction of the United States favored ports—would be thwarted if foreign goods might be admitted to Porto Rico free and thence into the United States free. He especially dwelt upon the liberty classes of the constitution as necessarily applicable to all civilized peoples owing allegiance to the United States.

MR. PORTER DEAD.

Pomfret, Conn., Dec. 15.—John Addison Porter, former private secretary to President McKinley, died a few moments before 2 o'clock.

TRAVELED INCOGNITO.

New York, Dec. 17.—A dispatch to the Herald from Rio Janeiro says:

It is announced that the American consul at Para has been traveling incognito through the state of Manaos by the Amazon and its tributaries. It is believed that his journey was some relation to the reported sale by Bolivia of the territory in the so-called republic of Acre to an American syndicate.

FITS I wish every person in the U. S. suffering with FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS to send for one of my large-sized 16-ounce bottles **FREE.** DR. F. E. GRANT, Mfr., 78, Kansas City, Mo.

SEND NO MONEY
WARRANTED 20 YEARS
Excelsior Watch Co., 358 Central Bank Bldg., Chicago.

$500 IN GOLD FREE

FIND THE MISSING BIRD, IF YOU CAN EASY SHARE IN THE DISTRIBUTION OF $500 IN GOLD, WHICH WE ARE GIVING AWAY FREE.
WE DO NOT WANT ONE CENT OF YOUR MONEY.
BY RETURN MAIL.
AND TRY AND GET YOUR SHARE OF THE $500.
THE METROPOLITAN AND RURAL HOME, 150 Nassau Street, New York City.

WANTED—IMMEDIATELY a man with a rig to advertise and take orders for goods. Steady salary and expenses. Permanent position. Address Royal Co-Op. Mfg. Co. Station, H, Indianapolis, Ind.

$200 Profit on printings costing only TEN DOLLARS. Latest method of operating in WALL ST. Send stamp for explanation and proof. PHILBROOK, Broadway, Cortlandt and Dey, N. Y. City.

FREE! TO LADIES who CANNOT PAY. Send 10c. for postage. Address, Dr. Peal, 19 Park Place, New York.

PARALYSIS Locomotor Ataxia, Loss of Sexual Power, Spermatorrhœa, Impotency, Nervousness, Sleeplessness, Nervous Debility, Kidney and Bladder Troubles, Rheumatism, Sciatica, Lumbago, Neuralgia, Nervous Headache, Female Weakness, Hysteria, Dizziness, Fits, Epilepsy, St. Vitus' Dance, Nervous Prostration, Hypochondria, Blues, Insanity, Softening of the Brain, Decay, Premature Old Age, Impaired Memory, Lack of Confidence, Pimples, Blotches, Eruptions, Blood Poisons, Scrofula, Boils, Carbuncles, Ulcers, Sores, Tumors, Cancers, Tetter, Eczema, Itching, Scaly Skin, Diseases of Stomach, Liver, Bowels, Kidneys, Bladder, Blood, Lungs, Throat, Nose, Eyes, Ears, Catarrh, Asthma, Bronchitis, Consumption, Heart Disease, Dropsy, Diabetes, Varicocele, Stricture, Piles, Fistula, Rectal Ulcers, Constipation, Worms, Tapeworm, Malaria, Chills and Fever, Contagious Blood Poisons, Mercurial Poisoning, Effects of Quinine, Effects of Tobacco, Opium, Morphine, Liquor Habits, Effects of Self-Abuse, Effects of Excesses, Female Irregularities, Displacements, Abortion, Sterility, Leucorrhœa, Menstrual Dis

The HOUSEHOLD And YOUNGFOLKS

EDITED BY EMILY S. BOUTON

"PEACE ON EARTH, GOOD-WILL TO MEN."

There were three weary pilgrims led softly from afar
To the cradle of the Christ-child, by Bethlehem's guiding star.
There was the shepherds' vision of shining, silvery wings,
And a song to ring and echo until the whole world sings.
There's a glimmer still in the darkness, a shining athwart the gloom,
There's a whisper of God in human souls —"Make for the Christ-child room!"
'Tis the shining star long shrouded in the ages' sorrow and wrong,
And the echo of the chiming of the shining angels' song.

There's a message out of the starland. The voices that should sing
Are ours, that can echo the angels, and herald our Lord, the King.
With never a hush nor a silence should the Christmas melody rise,
Till hearts of the lowest and saddest uplift to the Bethlehem skies.
Till the sad world makes it ready—freed from its strife and sin,
Each heart a sacred temple—for the Christ-child's entering in.
Till even the souls in prison are tuned to the angels' chord,
And the whole glad world is singing of the coming of the Lord.

—Mary Lowe Dickinson.

"Of Little Works Well Done."

EMILY S. BOUTON.

"We are not here for holidays; our lives are not for dreaming,
While tolling hands and busy heads are laboring all around;
Men are stirring, wheels are whirring, fires gleaming, vessels steaming,
There is work on land and ocean and in regions underground.
And full often, as I ponder o'er some lofty pile upspringing,
Of triumphant deeds accomplished, or some mighty victory won,
In my ears a chime of thought has seemed to be set ringing—
All great works are made of little works well done.'

The end of a wonderful century is just at hand, a century which has enclosed in its limits an almost incredible degree of change and progress. It is only by looking backward and reading its history as a whole that what has been wrought can be, in the least degree, comprehended. The humanity of to-day is utterly unlike the humanity of a hundred years agone. Not but that the same passions hold sway; not but that sin and sickness are still rife in the world; not that war and pestilence and famine have disappeared from off the face of the earth. On the contrary, it sometimes seems, in these later days, as if we were upon the verge of a moral cataclysm. Possibly this may be so, but if true, it is only the result of the work of spiritual forces which are endeavoring to arouse the world's conscience in order to clear the moral atmosphere everywhere.

Just at this time, when there seems so much to be done to bring the thought to better things, when the last Christmas of the century is almost here with a greater potency of meaning than ever before in our lives, when the New Year and the New Century cometh apace, the fact that "we are not here for holidays; our lives are not for dreaming" seems written in letters of fire.

Men are stirring, wheels are whirring,
fires gleaming, vessels steaming,
There is work on land and ocean and in
regions underground.

This may well be sung of the physical, the material world, in which there is no limit to action, and accomplishment. But the same thing is true in the mental and the moral world. Men's brains teem with new thoughts or old ideas revivified, bringing out intellectual triumphs which have transformed artistic and industrial fields. We have grown accustomed to wonderful things. New discoveries and inventions surprise us for a day, and then we pass on to something later still. And some times we pause to question the future, to ask if all of this growth in material affairs does not mean a corresponding progress in what pertains to the higher life. I believe it does, and that it is only a healthy optimism which looks forward hopefully to the coming years, and not a foolish blinding of the mental eye to saddening facts.

The question inevitably comes when we cease to view all this rush and stir of accomplishment as outside of ourselves, of what influence we as individuals have had, and are having, in the bringing to pass of greater events, in the uplifting of humanity to a higher plane of thought and action. In answer to this, the poet sings:

And full often, as I ponder o'er some
lofty pile unspringing,
Of triumphant deeds accomplished, or
some mighty victory won,
In my ears a chime of thought has
seemed to be set ringing—
All great works are made of little
works well done.

The pleasant smile, the helpful word, the inspiring thought, the trifling kindly acts, all belong to the "little works well done," that finally tend to making up the greater accomplishment. You can never tell what part your "little works" may have in bringing to pass the larger action. You cannot know who they may have thrilled into a longing for better ways; whose feet they have made firmer in the good path, and it does not matter if you do not. Only be sure that the smallest effort to help others must bear its fruits, must have its part in the "great works" done in the world. It is a glorious thought, and one in harmony with the season, that to help in bringing "peace on earth" it is only necessary to be at peace, through self-conquest, with the God which dwells within our own hearts and is the Higher Self.

"Of little works well done." I am reminded of this again by an appeal to take part in what may seem to many "little works," but which in its entirety is a splendid accomplishment. I refer to the Salvation Army that here as elsewhere goes quietly and unostentatiously on, with devotion and self-denial for its watchword, working with those who, perhaps, could be reached in no other way, lifting the fallen, encouraging the soul-sick, but supplying first the physical wants, the lack of which degrades the best among us all.

One does not need to think twice ere answering its call. No large salaries come out of what is given. No luxuries are enjoyed at the expense of what has been bestowed for other purposes. There is no question necessary about the use of what is asked for in the name of the Master to help where help is needed.

We read thrilling stories of the rescue work done by the Salvation Army in the great city of New York, where vice holds such high carnival, that again a crusade for its suppression has been undertaken by the public. But the Army makes no spasmodic efforts. It does not wait for any upheaval of public sentiment, to "sound the loud timbrel," but it works steadily on, building industrial homes where the rescued ones may find employment to hold them past the danger-point of reaction; and children's homes in which the little ones may be taught the virtues of cleanliness and industry.

It is an interesting story of which I would like to tell more at this Holiday time when one longs to see the whole world glad and happy, but it must wait a fitter opportunity. Yet it is well to remember that every earnest member of what is now an immense army girding the earth around, is doing the "little work" faithfully that united makes the great accomplishment possible. It is an example of what the fulfilment of personal responsibility may accomplish for the betterment of humanity.

Let us not forget this truth.

New Year's Story.

Next week one of the attractions of this page will be a story by Louise Latham Walls, whose A Christmas Fragrance appears to-day. It will be entitled Aunt Jane's Blue "Jeg."

The Cozy Corner:

Again we celebrate the Christmas-tide and give gifts to those we love, in remembrance of the greatest of all gifts—the birth of One who came into the world to teach us the way by which we may gain life everlasting, of Him whose teachings were all of peace, love and good-will to all men. Unless our offerings are made in the same spirit we cannot feel that they, or ourselves, are in harmony with the season, as the best gifts and the most acceptable, are those which manifest a spirit of mutual confidence, consideration, helpfulness and forgiveness.

"Aunt Betsey" sends directions for making some cute little presents at little, or no cost:

I wish to say to the writer of the "personal letter" that she can make some very pretty and acceptable gifts from "nothing," or next to nothing. For a friend who may not care for a plant, you can make a pretty splasher for her washstand out of a nicely laundered flour-sack, a little ink and some autumn leaves tastefully arranged. The work is the spatter work described in a recent number of The Blade.

A piece of a box cover cut in the proper shape; the white, inner husk of corn sewed on it with the ends overlapping each other and at the top cut the tops into points, this finished with a bag of cretonne, muslin, or silkolene, as you please, fastened to the back will give you a slipper case that will be sure to please some one. If each point of the husks is touched with gold paint and the whole varnished, it will add somewhat to the effect, but it will be pretty and odd, if made perfectly plain.

For the children, mark on the head of a clothespin, eyes, nose, mouth and hair with a pen and ink, and dress it in very full robes of tissue paper, and there will be a doll that will bring joy to some little girl. If the clothespin is fastened to a square piece of wood so it will stand alone and the inner parts of the skirt are made of flannel, she will take great pleasure in acting as pen-wiper for the little girl's older brother.

Another doll can be made by wrapping a corn-cob with cotton until it is quite stout, then cover with a piece of black cloth—a stocking-leg is excellent for the purpose—sew on arms, dress in bright red, or yellow calico, make the features with a needle and thread and finish with a bright-colored turban. A few locks of curled hair peeping from under the turban will add to the effect.

The cotton-flannel animals stuffed with cotton are always in favor with the very least of children and are perfectly safe for them to play with, while a mouse of this kind, with bright black (bead) eyes made a very pretty pincushion for one young lady's work-basket last year.

"Z. P. N." asks for directions or suggestions for trimming a Christmas tree.

This must depend somewhat upon the expense in which one wishes to indulge. Strings of popcorn, cranberries and tinsel; nuts gilded or covered with crocheted bags or bright silk or, yarn, suspended from the branches, apples, oranges, lemons and bunches of grapes, can all be tied to the larger twigs. Bits of cotton to represent snow-flakes should be scattered over the tree, these should be dipped in a strong solution of alum, and dried before using, so as to prevent danger of fire, if candles are employed.

The candles can be bought for five cents a dozen, and the tin holders by which they are to be fastened to the tree, will cost as much more. As the candles are not burned but a short time, an outfit of this kind will do for several days.

Any amount and variety of bright colored ornaments for a tree can be bought for a few cents, and add greatly to its appearance. None but small packages should be attached to the branches, the larger gifts being arranged on tables near by, or piled up on the floor around the base.

Cotton batting used in the make up of the dispenser of the gifts, should be prepared with the alum solution above mentioned, as it will greatly lessen the danger of the serious accidents from fire that too frequently occur. It is also well to have a pail of water and a sponge fastened to a long stick, near at hand, to extinguish any blaze that may occur from a candle coming too close to the branches of the tree.

How to Make the Christmas Cake.

Mrs. "H. P." requests full directions for making the Christmas fruit cake given in The Blade. She wishes to make one now to be kept until her fifth wedding anniversary, which will occur in three years.

In making any kind of fruit cake, first beat the eggs, without separating, until very light, cream the butter and sugar and add to the eggs with the flour and spices. Stem and seed the raisins, wash and dry the currants, shred the citron, mix the fruit, flour it well and add to the already prepared ingredients, with the juice and rind of the orange and lemon. Beat the whole vigorously till it is thoroughly mixed, then pour into the tins, and be sure to bake it long enough. The recipe given will need to bake from two to four hours, according to the size of the loaves, in a moderate oven.

If these directions are strictly followed, especially in regard to the baking, it will be impossible for the cake to mould in three years, or in ten times three years.

The Merry Go-Rounds

Do all the good you can,
In all the ways you can,
To all the people you can.

Owing to want of space, the following letter was omitted last week. "Mother's Stay" makes an altogether different application of the November study from the others who have sent papers:

May we not apply the words of our November study to our own bodies? They are temples, which we may use either for magnifying God or ourselves. We may put forth every effort in cultivating intellectual refinement and acquiring mental adornment, building a sanctuary to be immortalized in the refining processes of the ages of eternity, by glorifying Gods name; or it may crumble to dust in its slavery to the pomps and vanities of the world, while the spirit of the beautiful edifice we have labored to perfect, wanders forever in a dark and terrorizing eternity.

Although these sanctuaries may be wanting in the embellishments and adornments of outward display, owing to the limitations of our earthly prosperity, still we can erect an altar of purity within them, which will far outweigh the most superb magnificence, and thereby inscribe our names on the list of those who gain life eternal.

"Fannie" gives a very interesting account of some Oregon pets:

"I think the Merry-Go-Rounds will be interested in a story of two pets that belonged to one of my neighbors. They were young bears, and those of you who have only seen the huge, awkward looking animals that are shown in cages or led around by a chain, can have no idea how intelligent and playful they are as pets.

"These of which I am telling you were about as large as a medium-sized dog, were jet black, and their names were Queen and Frank. They were captured when very young, their mother running away from them at the sight of some hunters, who took the babies home for 'adoption.' When they cried they would say 'ma, ma,' as plainly as a child could, and one day when they were shown a bearskin they lay down upon it, rolled over, and cried so like heart-broken children, that we could hardly restrain our tears, it seemed so pitiful.

"They were never quiet, except when asleep, and would climb on and over every thing indoors and out. They were very much like human beings in some ways; for instance, they once ate some honey and alcohol and got gloriously drunk. Frank just laid down on the floor in a drunken stupor and could only grunt in a lazy manner, when Queen, who had been more moderate in her indulgence, rolled and tumbled him about to her heart's content.

"One of their favorite games was to climb a large tree in the yard and, going out on a limb, the one nearest the body of the tree would suddenly push the other off. He would be up in a twinkling and then it would be his turn to give the push. They would play until they were tired, then curl up on a limb, and sleep as calmly as if on the ground.

"Occasionally, when they were very naughty, they were shut up in a closet, like bad little girls and boys. On one occasion Frank apparently became tired of meditating over his naughtiness and proceeded to climb up on a shelf, soon startling everyone in the house by the large crash, which followed his having thrown a lamp to the floor, breaking it past repair.

"Queen often tried to coax Frank to run away, but could not succeed, so one day she went alone and was killed a short time after by some hunters who did not know that she was a pet.

"Frank remained at home until one day he attempted to mix a pan of bread that had been placed on a table to raise. He did not succeed very well, and his mistress decided that he was too "inefficient help" to keep any longer, so he was sold. Soon after, some one who did not know but what bears could eat anything, fed him some salt salmon and after taking it, Frank passed out of this troublesome world, the victim of mistaken kindness."

"Miss Flossie" asks for admittance to the M. G. R.'s, expressing her great interest in the letters she has read therein. If she had read the rules that had so often been published, she would have known that one of the first requirements for membership is that she write her letters with ink and sign her full name and address.

"R. L.," a new friend from Nebraska, writes:

"I think that everyone must be interested in the Merry-Go-Round letters, as they seem to contain so much that is helpful. If we all were like 'Henrietta,' I am sure there would be no more gambling, nor drinking of intoxicating liquors, but I am sorry to say that I know of so-called Christian young ladies who seem to enjoy the society of young men who are known to drink, swear and gamble. As long as this is true, we cannot expect the men to give up their sinful ways. 'Henrietta' should not take so much to heart the things she is in no way responsible for, but do the best she can and leave the result to God."

"Little Jane," Minnesota, seems inclined to be skeptical in regard to the good intentions of some of our M. G. R. family. Miss Prudence can assure her that there is a very good reason for the absence of the letters to which she refers.

She must remember that nearly all of the older members of the M. G. R. are busy people, holding responsible positions, which prevent them from giving much time to anything outside of their work. With the best intentions and the most sincere desire to write, circumstances arise that hinder them from so doing.

This has been the experience of your Chaperone, and the consciousness of several very welcome letters which have unavoidably lain unanswered for months in her desk, makes her very lenient and ready to find valid excuses for others. "Little Jane" may feel safe in sending her application for membership, for those promised letters are certain to come. She writes:

"I am not a member of the M. G. R., though I have read the column ever since its commencement, and have enjoyed some of the letters very much. When 'New England Girl' and others, who were my especial favorites, promised to return if the poem studies were discontinued, I intended to make application for membership, but though the 'studies' were practically abolished I have not yet seen any fulfillment of the other side of the bargain. Possibly I misunderstood that which was only intended for a joke, as a bona-fide promise. I still await developments."

So far there has been but one response to the suggestion that all tell us of their happiest Christmas. Is it because every one has been so happy for the M. G. R.'s that they cannot select the best? Even then a description of one of these happy days would help to make a very pleasant column. Send them as soon as possible.

BY THE WATERS OF GALILEE.

The wind is low in the oleanders,
Softly stirring the rosy sea;
Out from a hill a rill meanders
Down to the waters of Galilee.

A burning blazon of blue enamels
The rainless heaven that arches o'er;
And Druses drowse by their crouching camels
Where meadows dip to the shingly shore.

Crumbling walls that the hyssop clings to,
Such is Magdala's glory now:
And the only ear that the cuckoo sings to
Is that of his mate on the carob bough.

The columned city that Herod fashioned,
That glistered white in the noonday blaze,
Naught is left of its past impassioned
Save ghosts that wander its squalid ways.

Never a sail nor a galley oaring
The shimmering reaches of liquid calm,
Only a watchful vulture soaring
Over the crest of a lonely palm.

But still the mountains, violet, vernal,
And the brooding vales where the shepherds be,
And the sun, in its equipoise eternal,
Looking down upon Galilee.

And ever, to halo the desert places,
By the [illegible]
Of him [illegible]
ground!

—Clinton Scollard, in December Century.

A CHRISTMAS FRAGRANCE.

No one would have noticed her passing through the crowded streets, for her dress was old-fashioned, poor and worn. Her bonnet was a rusty black trimmed with ribbons grown stiff with frequent washings and pressings, while a lace veil with a cord in it was tied across the top and thrown back in the style of bygone years.

Her grey hair, thinning at the crown, was parted and coiled in a small knot at the nape of her neck, though on each side of her face, two soft ringlets fell toward her slender shoulders, as she had been wont to wear them when the curls were a golden brown shading the blush-tinted cheeks of her youth.

Her gown hung in scant, straight folds to her shabby shoes, and a carefully cherished black shawl with a paisley border, was fastened across her chest with two jet-beaded pins held together with a slender chain. In her hand she carried a "reticule" reminding one of the seed cakes and "pep'mint" drops that dear, old country grandmothers used to take to church to "spell" the little ones along through sermons that dragged their weary lengths to ninthlies and tenthlies.

It was evident that for many years she had walked hand in hand with poverty. The lines of her face revealed a pathetic story, and the corners of her mouth drooped piteously, but her blue eyes were clear and warm, and shining with a light that told of a nature unhardened by the scourge of adversity.

It was the day before the Christmas festival and a holiday tingle was in the air; that intangible quality which brings to every heart something of joy or sorrow; a desire for merry-making; the reunion of divided families, and the wish that something different, something of pleasure may come with the day of rejoicing.

Before a flower stand the lonely figure halted, to gaze with hungry eyes at the wealth of blossoms recklessly flinging their perfume abroad as if their beauty and fragrance could last forever. Amidst the glorious profusion of color and sweetness, a modest cluster caught her attention.

"Mignonette," she said, with a sharp intaking of breath, "how I would like that bunch of blooms. How much for the mignonette?" she asked of the vendor.

"Twenty-five cents, lady," he answered. "All long stems and fresh picked this morning."

Twenty-[illegible]! Almost a fortune to poor Sally Duncan.

She turned away with a sigh, stopping irresolutely after a few steps to draw from her bag an old leather pocket-book. Then, with a quick decision, she extracted from its meagre contents a silver coin and handed it to the flower dealer.

"I'll go without my Christmas dinner," she thought, burying her face in the cool, sweet blossoms and inhaling their perfume in a very riot of enjoyment.

"Give us a flower, lady, give us a flower," piped the street urchins who read her gentle expression aright, each receiving in return for his confidence, a little sprig that was clutched in grimy fingers and pressed with ecstacy to equally grimy little noses.

An elderly man seated in a carriage drawn close to the curb, had watched the apparently trifling incident in a careless manner, till the scent of the blossoms set the chords of memory to vibrating and he brushed his hand across his brow as if to sweep away the cloud obscuring his vision. Prosperity betrayed its presence in every detail of his belongings. His round, full face, smooth shaven and unmarred with corroding lines, marked the successful man of wealth. His stern, gray eyes surveyed the world with the fearless glance of one accustomed to command. With the breath of the flowers, back came the memory of golden youth. A green country lane, rose-embowered and thick-shaded. A low gate under a lilac bush, and leaning upon it a fair, young girl dressed in a cotton gown of blue. In her hand she held a spray of mignonette. Behind her stretched a box bordered path that ended before a wide stone step leading to a half-open door. A garden came into the picture, too. A garden crowded with old-fashioned flowers. There were pinks and black-eyed susans, sweet williams and bergamot, with mignonette growing here, there, everywhere, filling the air with a haunting redolence.

Now it all returned to the mind of the dreamer!

The youth on the other side of the barrier was himself. The girl—again his memory played him false—what was her name?

Behind the ruddy brown curls resting against the soft, round cheek, he had tucked a bit of mignonette, whispering softly, "It makes a pretty contrast to your sunshine hair."

Once more he was Jack, the village parson's son, and she, his bonny sweetheart. Suddenly the name, Sally Duncan, rang out with a startling distinctness.

"Boy," he called to a waif standing near, "I'll give you a dollar for the posey in your hand."

"Here you are, mister, an' if you want to collar any more at that price, you can do business at the same old stand," was the answer.

The exchange was quickly made, and, fastening the flower in his buttonhole, the purchaser again fell to musing.

"I promised her I'd come back," he thought, "and I failed to keep my pledge. Sally was a winsome lass. I wonder whether she is living or dead. I wonder if the old house still stands by the turn in the lane. I wonder——" Like a flash came the inspiration to follow the heroine of the sidewalk episode. Turning to the urchin curiously watching the eccentric gentleman who had paid a dollar for a flower, he said: "Boy, do you know the lady who gave you this sprig of mignonette?"

The lad responded promptly.

"Yes, sir, her name is Miss Duncan, an' we call her Aunt Sally. She lives in our street, an' she's awful poor, but she's awful good."

"Get in here with me, and show the way," his listener commanded briefly.

Glancing about, to see if any of his comrades were observing his grandeur, the child sprang into the carriage, and, seating himself with a little bounce of delight on the luxurious cushions, pointed the road to his home in the tenement quarters.

In a tiny room, up long flights of dark stairs, rested the lady of the mignonette. Her bonnet and shawl were carefully laid away, and on a table were the flowers in an old blue china bowl. She sat before them absorbed in their beauty, drinking in their fragrance and lost in memories that for years had slumbered. She saw herself at the gate of her girlhood's home. Jack was there. The mignonette was in bloom, and her young lover's voice grew tender as he painted the happy future they were to spend together. Soon there came a day when the boy's face was black with anger, and his hands plucked nervously at the lilac tree over their heads.

"Sally," he said, "I'm going away. I can't stand father's fault-finding any longer. I'm going to make my fortune, and then I'll come back for you. Don't forget me while I'm gone."

And so he had left the village. She had never seen him again. She had never forgotten to watch for his coming, till the changes of time had driven her from her home. Since then, life had meant only toil and privation.

Touching the flowers gently, with a smile on her lips, she drifted back into the long ago and lingered there until, above the roar of the streets, sounded a knock at the door, rousing her from her pleasant reverie.

"I s'pose it is some of the children come for more of auntie's flowers," she thought, arising to answer the summons.

A portly gentleman stepped into the poor room. Wonderingly, his hostess placed a chair for her unbidden guest, and then waited silently for his words of greeting. They were a long time in coming. At length he asked: "Don't you know me, Sally?"

His voice sounded like an echo from her world of dreams.

"Why, it's Jack," she exclaimed tremblingly. Then, with quaint courtesy she extended her hand, saying: I'm real proper glad to see you."

"I've made my fortune and come back at last," he said simply. "It's been a long time, Sally" he added with hesitation. "I went to the village once, but you were not there. After that—oh, well, Sally, I had forgotten," he confessed, "but the scent of the mignonette brought back the recollection. We were sweethearts in the old days, you know," he continued softly.

A warm color flamed into the cheek of Miss Sally. She bowed her head to hide the tears with which her eyes were clouded.

The man left his chair and stood by her side. Clasping her hands in his own, he said: "I take it, Sally, that you and I are alone in the world. I am rich, you are poor. Why can't we spend the sunset of our lives together? To-morrow will be Christmas. All the world longs for happiness at the glad holiday time. My home is empty. It needs a mistress and I need a companion. Our youth is gone, but old age has not yet claimed us for its own. Let me redeem my promise now, Sally. The promise I made under the lilac tree in the garden of mignonette."

Turning to the blossoms on the table, he took a spray from the rich mass and tucked it behind the gray curls.

"The sunshine has turned to silver," he whispered, and then bending lower, said: "Let Christmas be the day of our wedding. Be generous and crown my life with your dear presence."

Slowly Miss Sally withdrew from his side, and raising her eyes, gazed earnestly into his face.

What she saw there was evidently reassuring, for, placing her hand on his shoulder, with a deep-drawn sigh, she answered simply: "Jack, I've never had another lover."

L. L. W.

BEFORE A FLOWER STAND THE LONELY FIGURE HALTED

THE CALLED.

When Mary sang to him, I wonder if
His busy hands stole softly to her lips,
And, smiling down, she needs must stop her song
To kiss and kiss again his finger-tips.

I wonder if, his eyelids being shut,
And Mary bending mutely over him,
She felt her eyes, as mothers do to-day,
For very depth of love grow wet and dim.

Then did a sudden presage come to her
Of [illegible] and words and thorn-strewn street?
And did she catch her breath and hide her face
And shower smothered kisses on his feet?

—Berlha Gerneaux Woods, in the Christmas Scribner's.

For November.
ILLI NOIS.

OUR WONDER COLUMN.

1.—WHAT WAS IT?

It came into existence on the 20th day of December, 1860, in the city of Charlestown, S. C. Its sponsors were 170 members of the legislature of that state, who affixed their names to its "birth-certificate" in the great hall of the South Carolina Institute. It grew rapidly for a time, and flourished after a turbulent fashion, but either because of some weak spot in its constitution, or because of the evil effects of inhaling too much powder, and having its system charged with a surplus of iron, it was not long-lived, expiring peacefully April 2nd, 1865, at the early age of 5 years, 3 months and 12 days. It was the means of ending the lives of many brave men, and brought little but disappointment to its best friends.

2.—RHYMING RIDDLE.

There is a certain character that occupies the same position in its own "family-circle" that "to-day" holds in the month of December. Furthermore,
Without it, faith turns to corrosion,
Fidelity's transformed to a maid,
A fish becomes an uproar,
And the gait of a horse is decayed.
A small branch grows to a suit of hair,
While a cord becomes something to drink;
A pair denotes a wagon,
And a braid, Darwin's long-missing link.

3.—ARITHMETICAL PROBLEM.

A ladder just reached the top of a perpendicular wall; by moving the bottom of the ladder 14 feet towards the wall, the top projected 1-3 of its length over the wall. Required the greatest possible height of the wall.

W. E. for W. P. E.

4.—GREEK CROSS.

X
O X O
O X O
O O O X O O O
X X X X X X X
O O O X O O O
O X O
O X O
X

1—A consonant.
2—To be in debt.
3—An ocean.
4—Brilliant.
5—The ambition of many cyclists.
6—Dreams.
7—A personal pronoun.
8—A tribe of Indians.
9—A consonant.
The centrals down and across represent the greatest known score."

5.—QUERY.

Who can tell us something about Fama, the goddess of rumor?

6.—QUOTATION.

Who wrote:
"Of beasts it is confessed the ape,
Comes nearest us in human shape.
Like man he imitates each fashion,
And malice is his ruling passion."

ILLI NOIS.

Answers to Puzzles of December 6

1—Gen. Winfield Scott.
2—Ex-ert, ex-ist, ex-tol, ex-pel, ex-act, ex-tort, ex-tent, ex-tant, ex-hale, ex-claim.
3—6185 miles.
4—Words forming double acrostic: Jewel, unity, divan, Gaddite, earth. Primals and finals, Judge Lynch.
In 1853 at the same time that a scheme was planned by a few fierce spirits of the party the object of which was to waylay and assassinate the king on his return from Newmarket. The deed was to be perpetrated on a farm belonging to Dumbell, one of the conspirators, called the Rycbouse Farm, whence the plot took its name. It owed its defeat to the fact that the house the king occupied in Newmarket took the accidental fire and Charles was thus obliged to leave the place eight days sooner than was expected. Some of the conspirators were brought to the block, one of them was fined 4000 pounds, and scarcely one escaped punishment.

—James Russell Lowell wrote:
"God wills man hopes in common souls,
Hope is but vague and undefined
Till from the poet's tongue the message rolls
A blessing to his kind."

Chat.

Correct solutions were received from Illi Nois, A. Faul, Chessie McCracken, John Hamilton, W. A. Hoyt, E. J., and John Gallier.

Illi Nois, your lists are always acceptable. I am sorry for the "sickness in the family" and hope it has ceased to trouble you by this time.

A. Faul, I am glad your busy season is over, if that will give us the pleasure of your company occasionally.

Miss Effie V., you did not quite understand the quiet in the Thanksgiving column. It referred to the "Pilgrim Fathers of the Western Reserve." Your description of the "old originals" was so good that I shall be pleased to have you come again.

Miss Chessie, E. J., and John G., you will be welcomed as regular students hereafter, whenever you can come.

The puzzle box is getting nearly empty, and the Schoolmistress would like to have some of the scholars bring in a little mental nut-meal, either a full loaf (complete set) or a few stray chips from their home supply.

Christmas comes in the wrong time of the week for us to celebrate it properly, but we take this opportunity of wishing every one of the Calendites all the good of the season; full stockings, pleasant meetings with friends, and a general happy closing of the year 1900.

ELIZABETH'S CHRISTMAS.

EMILY S. BOUTON.

It was a long ways from the village and very high. To be sure, when you had once climbed the narrow path which looked from below like some living thing creeping upward, and turned about, the view was something marvelously beautiful. Elizabeth, child that she was, used often to stop when she was busy doing her work, to gaze over at the gray mountain tops reaching up towards the clouds that were stooping downward from the deep blue sky; then at the village below with the river winding through it and losing itself in a world beyond.

"Mamma used to say it rested her, and I think it does me," she would tell her brother.

They were a brave pair, this young brother and sister who lived in the eyrie upon the hillside. A little cabin, mind you, built of logs, with two rooms below and one low-browed chamber above, set as if upon a shelf with a background of acres upon acres of granite rocks rising precipitously upward until the summit was lost to view. The quarter circle in which the house was built seemed a hollow made for that very purpose, so as to shelter it from the wild winds that in winter swept over the mountains. In the summer time, with the beautiful view beneath and the wild flowers peering out from the rocky crevices and nodding their heads in the breezes, the home was not without its pleasant features. When the cold weather came it was lonely and desolate enough.

They were orphans, Thomas and Elizabeth Gray. A few years before the father had moved his family from the East, and, as if to hide away from the world, built this cabin among the rocks. Days he went to the village and worked for what would feed and clothe the wife and children. The time came when the gentle mother closed her weary eyes and did not open them again on earth. Then the father followed her a little later and the children were left alone. Thomas was sixteen and Elizabeth two years younger. Both had been taught to work, and the boy continued to go each morning down to the village as he had gone with his father, returning at night when his tasks were done. Elizabeth remained at home with no companion save a big watch dog, who was friend and protector in one.

It was in the summer when they were left alone. The few who knew and were interested in the orphan children had tried to persuade them to come to the village, but they loved their home, and decided not to go away. Now the winter was come, setting in unusually early. Heavy snows had already fallen, making the road downward a pretty hard one to traverse, but Tom was a sturdy lad and managed to get to his work and back without great hardship.

One might wonder that steps were not taken to compel these children to move to the village and stay until the spring, but what is everybody's business is nobody's, and so while there were those who looked at the little bird's nest of a cabin up among the deepening snowdrifts and shook their heads, the courageous youngsters were not interfered with.

The next night but one before Christmas Tom came home at night swinging something white above his head as he rushed into the house, shouting gaily:

"A letter from Uncle Ben Lisbeth! And he's coming to see us, and perhaps, perhaps he'll be here Christmas. Now what do you think of that?"

Elizabeth's eyes grew bright and she laughed happily.

"Then we'll have a real Christmas dinner, won't we, Tom, and you'll help me cook it?" she said. "And Uncle Ben won't mind if it isn't so fine as he's used to, because I'm a grown up, and it can't be expected I'll do like mamma did," continued the little woman, bustling round to get the supper ready for the hungry lad.

How they talked and talked that night after the work was done about the letter, and what Uncle Ben said he wanted to do for his sister's children! And the great dog lay there looking from one to the other as if he understood all that was said, and was just as happy as they over the possible future.

The next morning, when Tom started for the village, the air seemed full of snow, though only a few flakes were drifting downward slowly.

"It looks storm fashion," he said, "and its coming from over yonder, too. It will be hard getting back, Lisbeth, but don't you be frightened if I'm late. And you, Bruno, take good care of your mistress, sir, till I get here," he continued, patting the dog's head affectionately. Bruno wagged his tail as much as to say, "All right, old man!" and Tom went whistling down the road calling back good-bye to Elizabeth, who watched him from the doorway. She hated to see him go that morning, feeling an unusual and curious dread of the day's loneliness that even the thought of Uncle Ben could not drive away.

Many people will remember the terrible storm that came the day before Christmas a few years ago, and stopped traffic in some parts of the country. In the mountain region, where Tom Gray and his sister lived, it was unusually severe.

Elizabeth was so busy with her household duties that she did not notice how the snowfall increased, until a look outward toward the village where she knew Tom was, showed her only what seemed a great white moving wall that shut everything away from sight. She had never seen anything like it before and it seemed wonderful. By and by she noticed how it was piling up all around her; how it was reaching to the windows, and finally over them, until the light grew dim as it the night had come. Then, and not till then, did the girl become frightened. How could Tom get through the snow at evening? Would the whole house be covered so that no one could find her and Bruno? And still the unanswering snow came down softly, mercilessly, but unceasingly.

So the day wore away and she knew by the clock that the night had come, and no Tom! By and by she covered up the fire upon the hearth, and after saying the simple prayer her mother had taught her, went to bed with faithful Bruno by her side. Her childish faith in God's care and her absolute confidence that Tom would find a way to reach her soothed her into slumber.

She remembered, when she wakened in the morning, that it was Christmas day. Christmas day and no Tom. And oh! how dark and still it was! Not a sound fell upon her ear except her own voice as she talked to Bruno. You can imagine how it would be with the snow almost to the roof, shutting out every ray of light, wrapping the house around with a great thick mantle that it was impossible for her to lift or work through. She tried to think what she would do when Tom came, as come he surely would by and by. Then she gave Bruno his breakfast, and tried to work as usual. For herself, she did not eat, for she was not hungry.

Slowly the hours crept on. Would Tom never get that terrible wall of snow away? She sat in her mother's chair and softly sung the hymns her mother used to sing. At intervals she waited and listened, but the same dense stillness pressed upon her heavily.

It seemed to her that she had been shut in for days and days, but she knew by the clock it was only a little after the noon hour. Suddenly Bruno, who had been lying by her side, gave a quick leap and an anxious bark. Elizabeth sprang to her feet, breathless, and waited, but could hear nothing. Again Bruno barked loudly, and then she heard, faint, muffled and far away, her name called with a prolonged sound like a distant halloo. She knew it was Tom, and she called back again and again, but it seemed to her as if her voice fell dead and did not pass beyond the room, or her own ears.

Well, it was Tom indeed. After what seemed a long, long, weary time, a murmur of voices drew nearer and nearer, and when she had grown almost faint with waiting, the sound came close by, and Tom called loudly: "Lisbeth! Lisbeth! Unlock the door and let us in."

She cannot tell how she managed to cross the room and turn the key, for a sudden darkness fell over her vision.

When she came to herself, she found Tom was holding her, and a big, kindly looking man stood gazing in her face, with the tears running down his cheeks. And there were others, too, men from the village, who had spent their Christmas day in helping the boy reach his sister buried in the drifts up on the hillside. For, though the snowfall was heavy everywhere about, it had chanced to come from the right direction to drift into the cleft where the cabin stood, until the latter was covered nearly to the eaves.

Of course the big man was Uncle Ben, who reached the village the evening before by a sadly belated train. At the hotel he heard the men talking about a boy who had tried to go to his home upon the hill and was driven back by the storm. The lad, they said, was worried and anxious because his sister was there alone with her dog, and would be frightened by his prolonged absence. In the morning they would help him to get to her, but there was no use in trying to go until daylight would show them how to find the road.

It came to Uncle Ben as he listened that these were the very children he had traveled so far to see, and it took but a few moments for him to learn that he was right. And then he comforted the anxious boy, urging that nothing could harm Elizabeth with Bruno there, and in the morning they would go to her as early as possible.

Well, you know how it came out. They did go, but it was a great deal harder to get there than they imagined it would be, and took long hours with many strong hands and willing hearts. And the men lost their Christmas dinner, too, but Uncle Ben made them all go back to the hotel with him and Tom and Elizabeth, and take a Christmas supper instead, which I verily believe tasted just as well, because they had the appetite that good deeds are apt to bring.

No, Tom and Elizabeth never went back to live again in the cabin on the hillside.

A MURMUR OF VOICES DREW NEARER AND NEARER

BRITISH DEFEATS.

Boers Aggressive at Several Different Points, Widely Apart.

London, Dec. 14.—Lord Kitchener reports that, after severe fighting at Nooitgedacht, General Clement's forces were compelled to retire by Commandant Delary with a force of 2,500 men. Four British officers were killed. The other casualties were not reported.

Lord Kitchener's official dispatch to the war office is as follows:

"Pretoria, Dec. 13.—Clement's forces at Nooitgedacht, on the Magaliesburg, was attacked at dawn to-day by Delarey, reinforced by Beyer's commando from Warmbath, making a force estimated at 2,500. Though the first attack was repulsed, the Boers managed to get atop of the Magaliesburg, which was held by four companies of the Northumberland Fusiliers, and were thereable to command Clement's camp. The latter retired to Hekpoort and took up a position on a hill in the center of the valley.

"The casualties have not been completely reported, but the fighting was very severe, and I deeply regret that Colonel Legge, of the Lambtieh Hussars, and Captains MacBean, Murdoch and Atkins were killed. Reinforcements have left here."

Lord Kitchener also reports that the Boers made an attack and were repulsed at Lichtenburg, and that Gen. Letmer was killed. Attacks upon Bethlehem and Vrede were also repulsed, the Boers losing ten killed and fourteen wounded. Vryheid was attacked December 11. Sniping continued when the message was dispatched.

The scenes at the war office to-day recall those witnessed in the early stages of the war. A constant stream of excited people filled the lobbies, all seeking details of the disaster. The absence of the names of any of the officers of the Northumberland Fusiliers in Gen. Kitchener's dispatch leads to the foreboding that the four companies of fusiliers mentioned are in the hands of the Boers.

The war office officials evidently expect a heavy casualty list, but they are hopeful from the fact that the dispatch does not mention the capture of the Northumberlands, that such a great catastrophe has been escaped.

Orders were issued at Aldershot, Malta and other military centers to dispatch all the available mounted infantry to South Africa.

It is reported that General Knox, cooperating with the British column at Reddersburg, has stopped General DeWet and that a battle is proceeding. The report adds that many of General DeWet's followers have been captured.

London, Dec. 17.—The Magaliesburg affair is described as follows in a dispatch to the Standard from Rietfontein:

"The scene of the engagement was a horse-shoe shaped depression. The Northumberlands occupied the center. General Clement's camp was pitched 1,000 yards lower at the eastern point of the horse-shoe, and Colonel Legge's camp was 800 yards distant. General Delarey's 1,000 men, against whom General Clement had fought repeated actions, were suddenly, unknown to General Clement reinforced by 3,000 men from Warm Baths, under Commandant Boyers. At daybreak Colonel Legge's picketed sniers were challenged. They replied with a volley revealing 400 Boers in Khaki. The firing became heavy and the noise aroused Colonel Legge's troops who arrived just in time to save the outposts from capture.

"A furious engagement ensued. Artillery was brought up, and it compelled the Boers to retire. Colonel Legge, following up the withdrawal, was shot dead by a bullet through his head.

"General Clements and his staff soon arrived. The staff suffered severely, but General Clements appeared to have a charmed life.

"While mounted men were driving the enemy back along a slope covered thickly with Boer dead, a deafening rifle fire suddenly broke on the plateau above. The signallers heliographed Northumberland was being attacked. Gen. Clements disposed the remainder of his forces on the flanks and rear of his two camps.

"At 4:30 a. m. a heliograph from the western park announced that the Boers were about to overwhelm the fusiliers. General Clements was unable to send to the demand of public anxiety to learn the latest news.

Lord Kitchener is reported to have sent a fresh and urgent request to the government to send out every available mounted man. With Gen. DeWet again escaped through the British cordon in the neighborhood of Thaba N'Chu, the serious affairs at Vreyheid and Zastron, and the Magaliesberg disaster confronting the British people, they may well begin to ask, as they do, why Lord Roberts is allowed to come home.

The colonial office announces its decision to enlist 5,000 men instead of the 1,000 previously asked to be recruited in Great Britain for Gen. Baden Powell's constabulary, which shows that recruiting in South Africa is less active than had been anticipated.

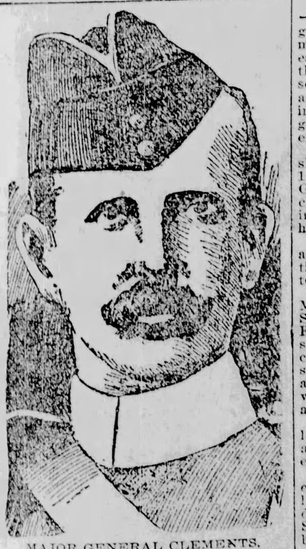
Dispatches from Lourenzo Marques assert that all the Boer forces are plentifully supplied with ammunition, but terribly in want of food and clothing.

Mr. Kruger, at The Hague, received Mr. William T. Stead yesterday. Mr. Stead urged him to continue his tour of Europe and to go to America. The Boer statesman listened attentively, but declined to commit himself by any definite statement. It is reported that he is about to remove from his hotel to a private residence, as though contemplating a prolonged stay at The Hague.

Lord Roberts, now returning to England on board the Canada, did not go ashore at St. Helena, though the steamer touched there.

Ninety troopers, members of the Seventeenth Lancers, stationed at Ballincollig, were arrested yesterday for insubordination. They were about to start for South Africa, and were annoyed at not being allowed license to carouse.

The map shows the location twenty-two miles from Pretoria, of Nooitgedacht, where the Boer General Delarey attacked General Clements and captured 573 British officers and men. The British also lost five officers and nine men killed.



MAJOR GENERAL CLEMENTS, Who Suffered Defeat at the Hands of the Boer General, Delarey.

COL. LEGGE, Commanding the Twentieth Hussars, Killed in the Engagement at Nooitgedacht.

Kruger Much Gratified.

London, Dec. 15.—"Mr. Kruger and Dr. Lyons, who dined last evening at the palace," says the correspondent of the Daily Mail at The Hague, "on hearing of the British disaster at Nooitgedacht, were quite unmoved. Mr. Kruger said he thought the English would break their necks on the Magaliesberg, and he reasserted his complete confidence in ultimately forcing England to initiate an acceptable settlement."

MILNER'S PROMOTION.

Cape Town, Dec. 13.—Sir Alfred Milner has been gazetted administrator of the Orange River Colony and the Transvaal.

Gen. Kitchener has cabled to the authorities of South Australia, asking that the wounded imperial bushmen, who are now convalescent, be returned to South Africa.

Another contingent of Canadian troops started on their way home to-day on board the Roslyn Castle. They received an enthusiastic send-off.

KRUGER HASN'T DECIDED.

The Hague, Dec. 17.—In reply to a dispatch from Grand Rapids, Mich., inviting him to the United States, Mr. Kruger has wired that he has not arrived at any decision with regard to visiting America.

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ON THE ROCKS.

German Training Shi Wrecked and Many Cadets Lost.

Madrid, Dec. 17.—The Gneisenau foundered at the entrance to the port of Malaga, where she was about to take refuge from the terrible storm prevailing. At the present time only the masts of the vessel are visible.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—An official dispatch from Malaga received here this morning accurate for 314 survivors out of the 459 persons who were on board the German training frigate Gneisenau, which foundered at the entrance to the port of Malaga yesterday while she was taking refuge from the terrible storm prevailing at the time.

The Gneisenau missed the harbor entrance and went on the rocks close to the lighthouse. She was smashed to pieces within an hour and completely submerged. About forty of the crew reached shore, much injured. A boat was launched, but not seen afterward. It is feared she is lost.

The commander and chief officers of the vessel stood at their posts, giving orders and trying to save the cadets before themselves. They went down with the ship.

The Gneisenau, which was built at Dantzic in 1879, was an iron vessel, sheathed with wood, and had had a displacement of 2,856 tons. She was 242 feet 9 inches in length, and 45 feet 11 inches in the beam, having a mean draught of 19 feet 8 inches and a coal capacity of 400 tons.

Her speed was thirteen knots. Her armament consisted of fourteen 5.9-inch Krupp breechloaders, two 2.4-inch quick firers, one boat or field gun and seven torpedo tubes.

Her complement was 461 men, and she was used for training boys for the German navy.

The total loss is now thought to be no less than 100. Some dispatches say 140. Forty of those saved are badly hurt.

Commander Killed Himself.

Malaga, Dec. 17.—It is rumored that the commander of the Gneisenau committed suicide when he saw that all was lost. A nephew of the imperial chancellor, Count Von Buelow, named Berndt, was among the saved, though he was injured about the head. A sailor who survived the wreck went mad as the result of his experience.

The first engineer, the assistant engineers and a number of petty officers were drowned.

It is hoped that the guns, the treasure chest, and perhaps part of the hull will be salvaged.

THE PHILIPPINES.

HOMEWARD MOVEMENT.

Manila, Dec. 18—The homeward movement of the volunteers will begin on New Year's day with the embarkation of the Thirty-seventh volunteer regiment. The Eleventh cavalry will follow.

LIQUOR IN MANILA.

Manila, Dec. 14.—The liquor license law has passed the Taft commission, but the commission is radically divided on its most distinctive feature namely, the banishment of saloons from the Escolta and several other crowded streets and plazas. Commissioner Wright offered an amendment leaving the authority for the removal of saloons in the districts in question to the provost marshal. The amendment received only the votes of Commissioners Wright and Ide. An amendment by Judge Taft excepting certain streets and adding others, was adopted, Commissioners Wright and Ide voting in the negative. On the passage of the bill Commissioner Ide voted "no" and Commissioner Wright voted with the majority. If there had been a second under Commissioner Ide would have offered an amendment forbidding the sale of liquor to soldiers.

An amendment was added extending the time for the removal of saloons from three to six months, namely to July 2. One of the sections, increasing the cost of licenses, goes into effect January 1, when the licenses expire.

During the arguments of Commissioners Wright, Ide, Worcester and Taft in favor of closing the saloons they cited the liquor laws of Tennessee and Massachusetts as effective precedents for confining the sale of liquor to prescribed localities. They also said the native police are ineffective to cope with the situation when soldiers are visiting Manila and becoming hilarious.

Heavy rains have fallen for several days. This deters war operations, especially on the part of the cavalry.

1,000 A DAY.

Manila, Dec. 14.—Gen. Kobbe, with the Twenty-eighth volunteer regiment, Col. Birkhimer commanding, landed at Kagayan, on the northern coast of Mindanao, Monday and reinforced the six companies of the Fortieth volunteer regiment stationed in the town. An aggressive movement had been planned.

From Iloilo it is unofficially reported that the insurgents in that part of the island of Panay are swearing allegiance at the rate of a thousand a day. The arrests of many prominent insurgents started the movement, which seems to be becoming universal, at Jaro, Molo, Mandurriao, Arevelo and Iloilo.

Considerable sums of money and large quantities of supplies have been captured by the Americans.

RETURN OF SICK SOLDIERS

San Francisco, Dec. 18.—Within a few days more than one thousand sick soldiers will be on their way home from the Philippines. The Grant and Sherman are now en route with 650 men and the Sheridan is scheduled to leave December 22. This will tax the general hospital at the Persidio to its capacity. The convalescents will be mustered out as soon as possible after their arrival and if the 807 available beds at the hospital become overcrowded, a tented annex will be built to accommodate the overflow.

PHILIPPINE POLICE.

Manila, Dec. 13.—The Taft commission has passed an act authorizing General MacArthur to establish police in the cities and towns and appropriating $150,000 for their maintenance.

Commissioner Wright, who is assigned to supervise the establishment of a constabulary, among other duties, said the establishment of a local police force was a necessary feature of civil government and was approved by the military government. An act was also passed providing for the retention in office of the municipal councillors elected under the order of the military governor, until a general municipal law was passed. The terms of some of the councillors expire in January. The elections for councillors are suspended.

Finally a bill was passed directing the civil service board to examine and report on the readjustment of the salaries of civil employes.

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GEN. GRIGGS' ARGUMENT

Says Opponents of Right to Tax Are Constitutionally and Legally Wrong.

Washington, Dec. 18.—In the United States supreme court yesterday argument was begun in two cases, the decision of which is expected to fix the status of Porto Rico and the Philippine Islands, and other insular possessions acquired through the war with Spain, with respect to the United States proper; to say whether their people are citizens, and to indicate whether the constitution follows the flag.

One of the cases is that of John H. Goetze, who, in June, 1899, imported from Porto Rico a quantity of leaf tobacco into the United States through the port of New York, and protested against the assessment of duty on the importation, claiming that the tobacco was not subject to duty because Porto Rico at the time of the importation was not a foreign country, and because, therefore, the imposition of duties on goods brought from a place within the territory of the United States into a port of the United Sates, is not lawful and valid under the constitution."

The collector of the port and the board of general appraisors both ruled against him, as did the United States circuit court for the southern district of New York, when Goetze took the case before that tribunal. From the opinion of that court the importer appealed to the Unied States supreme court.

The other case is known as the "Fourteen diamond ring case." In that suit the claimant is one, Manuel Pepke, who served as a soldier of the United States in Luzon in the Philippines. While there he purchased or acquired the rings in question, and brought them into the United States without paying duty upon them, some time in the year 1899, between July 31 and September 25. The rings were seized on May 18, 1900, at Chicago, by a United States custom officer as merchandise liable to duty which should have been invoiced, and was fraudulently imported and brought into the United States contrary to law. An information for the forfeiture of the rings was filed on behalf of the government, June 1, 1900, to which the claimant pleaded, setting up that at the time he acquired the property, Luzon was a part of the territory of the United States and that the seizure was contrary to the claimant's rights as a citizen of the United States, under the constitution, and particularly under section 2, article IV thereof, and he insisted that under article 1, section 8, congress is required to see that all taxes and duties shall be uniform throughout the United States. To this plea the United States demurred,and upon hearing of the demurrer the district court gave judgment of forfeiture for the government. This judgment the claimant removed into the supreme court by a writ of error.

Mr. Griggs' Argument.

Mr. Griggs' plea was based upon a brief of 200 pages, the greater part of which is devoted to presenting the argument of the United States, while the remaining portion is in the shape of an appendix giving the text of the peace treaty between the United States and Spain, and also the text of other treaties supposed to bear upon the question.

In presenting the government's side of the controversy the attorney-general first stated the two cases upon which the proceeding is based. This was followed by a general explanation and summing up of the government's position, after which came the citation of innumerable authorities, under appropriate headings, with pertinent running comment upon them. The attorney-general contended that the United States has the power to acquire territory; that, having acquired it, it has the right to govern it; that administrative construction, congressional action and judicial precedent affirm that every part in a ceded country is properly regarded as foreign until laws are extended by congress to the new possessions; that the clause of the constitution of the United States declaring duties uniform throughout the United States is not applicable to new possessions, and that the constitution does not extend of its own force over acquired territory.

In his general contention on behalf of the United States Mr. Griggs argued that his opponents were wrong from both a legal and a constitutional point of view. Referring to the legal aspect of the case he asserted that the Dingley act applied to merchandise imported from Porto Rico and the Philippines after their cession to the United States, the same as it did before, and that in view of the fact that the tariff laws are in rem, there is no principle of justice, much less of constitutional restriction, which forbids congress from taxing in this way the merchandise of outlying possessions of the United States when brought into the ports of the Union.

He laid down as established the two following propositions:

First—That the tariff act of 1897 was intended by Congress to classify as foreign all countries not a part of or belonging to the United States at the time of its passage, and the subsequent cession of the Spanish islands to the United States did not operate to admit imports from those islands free of duty, under that law;

Second—That the tariff act so construed and enforced violates no constitutional rule of uniformity.

Taking up the constitutional question the attorney general declared that there was no doubt that it was the intention of the Paris treaty not to make the ceded islands a part of the United States and also that it was intended not to make the inhabitants of those islands citizens. The only thing that could justify a declaration that the treaty is invalid would be that it violates the constitution of the United States.

Calling attention to the fact that those who attack the treaty rest their case upon no specific provision of the constitution, but rather upon a principle of our government which they say forbids this nation to hold sovereignty over subject territory which it does not make a part of itself under the constitution, Mr. Griggs said:

"If this were true, it would be a limitation upon the usual and necessary powers of a sovereign independent nation of such tremendous importance as to justify us in inquiring why it was not clearly expressed in the fundamental law by the men who drafted our constitution. They were learned in the law of nations, they knew the nature of colonies and provinces and how they were acquired by treaty and conquest and discovery, and how they were held and governed by other nations. They gave to the nation they founded the usual untrammeled powers of making war and treaties, the most frequent methods by which foreign territory is acquired by the nations of the earth. If they intended to restrict or limit their own government in these respects, would they not have done so in express terms? They did not do so by any language which can even be suggested as capable of such import, is it therefore right—nay, necessary—to conclude that they did not intend to do so?"

Continuing, he said it was not contended that Congress had absolute power over the lives and property of citizens: "There is here," he went on, "no proposition to confiscate or destroy the possible quality of the plaintiff's merchandise. It is a mere demand of a right to tax it at the custom house. The right to tax at our own ports merchandise coming from outlying territory of the United States, is not a strange nor unusual exercise of power. There is nothing essentially unjust in such a practice. It may be made unjust by the severity of the tax or the rigor of the prohibition, but so may any other kind of a custom house imposition. Such a practice has long been followed by every civilized power. England to-day levies duties on the merchandise of all her colonies when brought into the United Kingdom. She did the same in ante-revolutionary days, and we will not find among the complaints of the American colonists any protest on this score."

THE HEALTH HABIT

Just as Easy to Form as Any Other.

We do not deliberately form our pet habits, but they are unconsciously acquired and grow as we grow, and by the time we learn they are hurting us, we find them too strong to be easily broken.

Then, why not form a good habit, a habit which will counteract the many bad ones, in other words, contract the unfashionable habit of being always well?

The best health habit to get into is to have and keep a vigorous stomach; if you have a healthy digestion you can drink your beloved coffee, smoke your favorite brand of tobacco, with little or no harm; the mischief begins when these things are forced upon the faithful stomach without any assistance.

Form the habit of taking after meals some harmless but efficient digestive which will relieve the stomach of so much extra work.

Nature furnishes us with such digestives and when they are combined in such a pleasant preparation as Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets, they give the overworked stomach just the necessary assistance to secure perfect digestion without any of the harmful effects of cathartics and similar drugs.

The habit of taking Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets after meals is as necessary to the weak stomach as food itself, and indeed to get the benefit from food eaten, nothing better and certainly nothing safer can be used.

Many families consider Stuart's Tablets as essential in the house as knives and forks.

They consist entirely of natural digestive principle without the effect or characteristics of drugs; they have no cathartic action, but simply go to work on the food eaten and digest it.

Take into account your bad habits and the expense they entail and then invest fifty cents in a box of Stuart's Dyspepsia Tablets and see if your digestion for the next month is not vastly improved.

Any druggist or clerk in any drug store the name of the most successful and popular stomach remedy and he will say Stuart's.

SOUTH DAKOTA STAR

In the Per Capita Production of Wealth--One Year's Record.

Sioux Falls, S. D., Dec. 18.—For the third successive year South Dakota has won the proud distinction of having produced more wealth per capita than any other state in the Union. The following table of the year's production has been carefully compiled by Doane Robinson, of this city, from official and semi-official sources, and is believed to be approximately correct:

Wheat (22,000,000 bushels)	$15,000,000
Corn (50,000,00 bushels)	18,000,000
Gold and minerals	12,000,000
Live stock	27,000,000
Oats, barley and rye	7,500,000
Flax	5,000,000
Hay and fodder	8,000,000
Wool and hides	3,000,000
Dairy products	5,000,000
Gardens, orchards, etc.	6,000,000
Total	$106,500,000

The people of the state have never before enjoyed a season of greater prosperity than during the year now drawing to a close. And never before have they been in better financial condition than now. The increased deposits shown in the statements of the banks scattered throughout the state bear undisputed evidence to this. The volume of railroad traffic is an unfailing indication of the great development of the state. Twenty years ago the traffic consisted almost wholly of hauling immigrants and building material into the state. West-bound trains were loaded and east-bound trains were made up of "empties." Now the long trains of "empties" come westward to take to Eastern markets the millions of dollars' worth of products which go to make the people of South Dakota the greatest wealth-producers in the country. During the coming year it is confidently believed that not less than 50,000 new settlers will locate on the rich farm lands of the state.

FIFTY-SIXTH CONGRESS.

Washington, Dec. 11.—Senate.—Heard Mr. Clay in opposition to the ship subsidy bill. Referred to the committee on agriculture the house Grout oleomargarine bill. Referred to the committee on privileges and elections the credintials of William A. Clark, and Martin Maginnis, rival appointees from Montana.

House.—Passed resolution for a special committee of five congressmen to investigate the alleged fatal hazing of Cadet Booz at West Point. Began discussion of the war revenue reduction bill, Mr. Payne (N. Y.) speaking for the majority and Mr. Swanson (Va.) for the minority.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Senate.—Transacted no business of public importance owing to Washington's centennial celebration. Made Mr. Hanna's speech on the ship subsidy bill a special order for Thursday morning, Dec. 13.

House.—Devoted the day to the Washington centennial celebration.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Senate.—Listened to Mr. Hanna in support of the ship subsidy bill and then devoted the rest of the day to executive session, during which the Davis amendment to the Nicaragua bill was adopted by a vote of 65 to 17.

House—Devoted the day to debate upon the war revenue reduction bill. Those who spoke were Messrs. Grosvenor (Ohio), Bartholdt (Mo.), Hill (Conn.), Boutell (Ill.), McClellan (N. Y.), Newlands (Nev.), and Underwood (Ala.) Mr. Bartholdt gave notice that he would offer an amendment to reduce the tax on beer to $1.50 a barrel. It was agreed to close general debate on the bill Friday afternoon, Dec. 14. Resolution was adopted for a holiday recess from Friday, Dec. 21, to Thursday, Jan. 3, 1901.

Washington, Dec. 14.—Senate.—In secret session throughout nearly the entire legislative day, discussing the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. No business of importance was transacted in open session, except adoption of house resolution providing for holiday recess to extend from Friday, Dec. 21, to Thursday, Jan. 3, 1901.

House.—Devoted the day to discussion of the war tax reduction bill.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Senate.—Considered the Hay-Pauncefote treaty in executive session.

House.—Passed revenue bill and pension appropriation bill.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Senate.—Mr. Chandler created a little flurry by endeavoring again to get up the resolution relating to the Montana senatorial case. The effort was futile. No legislative business aside from the purest routine was transsacted, the day being spent in executive session on the Hay-Pauncefote treaty.

House—Suspension day. Passed 162 private pension bills. Passed bills to divide Kentucky and West Virginia into two judicial districts and to create another district judge in the northern district of Ohio. By a vote of 51 to 105 defeated a bill to give old soldiers and sailors preference in the matter of federal appointments. Passed a bill to place Congressman Charles A. Boutelle on the retired list as a captain in the navy. Passed an urgent deficiency bill carrying $182,500 for contingent expenses of the house of representatives, Indian affairs, District of Columbia and the National home for disabled volunteer soldiers.

ON THE ROCKS.

Vancouver, B. C., Dec. 18.—News of the worst marine disaster of the season in British Columbia waters was brought here by the steamer Czar from Union Bay, on the east side of Vancouver island. The famous steamer Alpha, whose unauthorized trip to Cape Nome last May brought her into trouble with the treasury department at Washington, was wrecked on a reef near the entrance to Union Bay, and not a vestige of the steamer remains. Her managing owner, captain, purser, two passengers, two able-bodied seamen and a stowaway were drowned, and the balance of the crew of 34 were saved by the pluck of an unknown member of the ship's crew, who swam in a raging sea from the wreck to a lighthouse with a line around his waist.

The ship Alpha was valued at $45,000. Her cargo comprised 750 tons of salt salmon and 350 tons of coal consigned to Yokohama and valued at $80,000. The total insurance on the ship and her cargo was $65,000.

LI AND CHING

Are Authorized to Act for China in Settling Terms of Peace.

Pekin, Thursday, Dec. 13.—Li Hung Chang and Prince Ching have sent an official notification to the ministers that they have received the promised documents authorizing them to act in behalf of China in the peace negotiations and announcing that they are ready to proceed as soon as the ministers desire.

The fact that Sir Ernest Mason Satow, the British minister to China, has not yet received authority from his government to sign the joint note causes astonishment here, as it is felt that the other powers having agreed, there cannot be anything in the joint note to cause Great Britain to object sufficiently to make her refuse to sign.

Mr. Conger says he believes China will immediately accept the terms imposed, and that she has it in her power to comply with the majority of them before spring while the others can wait.

On account of the frost, the court will not be able to return to Pekin, nor will the troops be able to leave until April, when, if the peace conditions are complied with, it is believed all the allied forces except the legation guards, not to exceed a hundred men for each power, will leave Pekin, remaining until the fall on the coasts between Taku and Shan-Hai-Kuan, available if necessary, or ready to be withdrawn; for if China cannot behave as a civilized power with military compulsion it may be necessary to dismember the empire. Mr. Conger personally believes that the Chinese have been taught a lesson by the looting.

Colonel Tullock reports the discovery of the body of the man who gave the British information regarding the treasure hidden, as alleged, by persons connected with the Chinese court during the recent flight. He had been decapitated. The British have not yet reported the discovery of the treasure, but their return is expected to-morrow.

Tien Tsin Railway.

Berlin, Dec. 14.—The Berliner Tageblatt has a dispatch from its correspondent in Pekin stating that the complete reopening of the Tien Tsin-Pekin railway is impossible on account of locomotives and rolling stock. The Russians refuse to do anything to replace material thus lacking.

EARTHQUAKE IN CUBA.

Santiago de Cuba, Dec. 17.—A sharp earthquake shock was felt here Saturday night about midnight. It was the most severe that had been experienced in several years, and almost created a panic at the San Carlos Club where a grand ball was in progress. It was preceded by a dull sound like a mine explosion. Two shocks followed, the former being quite severe and the latter scarcely perceptible. The ball-room at the club became a scene of frantic excitement. Several ladies fainted and the people rushed into the streets expecting another and severer shock.

At Morro Castle a military ball was in progress, and the American ladies present had their first experience of an earthquake. They expressed great interest but little fear.

No injury was done in the city with the exception of the breaking of dishes, though a few small buildings are said to have been slightly damaged.

ONLY TWO SAVED.

Manitowoc, Wis., Dec. 17.—The steamer Manhattan arrived here yesterday with W. H. Shields and William McCauley, lighthouse keepers on Squaw island, and the bodies of Mrs. Shields and her niece, Mrs. Mary Davis. They were picked up Saturday afternoon in the lake, where they were found lashed to an overturned yawl. They had been thus exposed since Friday, when they were capsized by a squall while sailing from the island to the mainland. Lucien Morben, of Montague, Mich., was also an occupant of the boat when it capsized, and was drowned before he could be lashed to the overturned craft.

The two rescued men are badly frozen, and it is thought they may have to suffer amputation of their lower limbs.

MICHIGAN'S VOTE.

Detroit, Dec. 17.—A special to the Free Press says a canvass of the election returns has been completed and shows that McKinley received 104,584 plurality in the state. The Populist candidate for president received 833; the Prohibition candidate 11,859; Social Democrat, 2,826, and the Socialist Labor, 903. The plurality of Governor Bliss was 79,384.

A GRANDCHILD OF GRANT TO WED AN AMERICAN

MISS VIVIAN SARTORIS

The beautiful granddaughter of President Grant, a belle both in Washington and London, is to be married to an American, Timothy Nichols, of New York city. The wedding will probably take place early in the new year.

Washington, Dec. 18.—An engagement which, though, not formally announced, is tacitly acknowledged by both families, is that of Miss Vivian Sartoris and Timothy Nichols, of New York city. Miss Sartoris is the elder daughter of Mrs. Nellie Grant Sartoris, and is one of the belles of Washington. Mr. Nichols is the son of Mr. and Mrs. William Gilman Nichols, of New York city, and is a popular young club man of the metropolis.

The attachment between the young people dates from two years ago, when they met at the international yacht races. Mr. Nichols has been an ardent lover, and it is said by his closest friends that the wedding will take place some time next year, and that the engagement will be formally announced as soon as the date of the marriage is settled.

Miss Sartoris is a tall, graceful brunette, and bears little resemblance to the Grant family. She has been a belle of two capitals, London and Washington, and has counted her admirers by the score. It is a subject of much congratulation to her family that she has chosen an American for a husband. Her venerable grandmother, Mrs. U. S. Grant, is especially well pleased, as it was a great grief when her daughter married an Englishman. She was not filled with enthusiasm when her namesake and granddaughter, Julia Dent Grant, wedded a Russian, even if he was a prince.

Mr. Nichols is well-known in Washington, where he has many friends. He will remain here until after the holidays, having gone to attend the dancer given last night by William Gordon Crawford, of New York, who will soon marry Miss Owen. A sister of Mr. Nichols, Mary Gilman Nichols, was married a few years ago to Mr. Armour, of Chicago.

CHANGE DESIRED

By England in Agreement--Will Not Cause Much Delay.

Pekin, Dec. 17.—Definite instructions supplementing Saturday's communication from London have been received by Sir Ernest Mason Sato, the British minister, and he now demands a modification in a point of the joint note which the foreign envoys generally regard as important. This means further delay, as all ministers must communicate anew with their respective governments.

Just what is the nature of the objection raised by Great Britain, the ministers refuse to say, but they admit the new demand will involve a great deal more diplomatic proceedure.

CHINESE STARVING.

Pekin, Dec. 18.—The Russians have purchased $700,000 worth of rice, which is being given to destitute Chinese. Gen. Chaffee, the American commander, in also having a large amount of rice issued, and the other nations are displaying liberality.

M. De Giers, the Russian envoy, says that Russia is making no exception in favor of Christians, because the latter have the least needs.

While a number of German officers were dining, they narrowly escaped death by asphyxiation in the fumes from a Chinese stove. Four out of seven were partially insensible for more than half an hour. Fortunately, all recovered. The stoves in the country are a constant source of danger.

The railway from Pekin to Taku is now completed. To make the trip of 80 miles generally takes twenty hours. The French are issuing an invitation to an excursion by train to Pao Ting Fu, January 16.

TOOK CHINESE FLAG.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The secretary of war has received from General Chaffee, commanding the legation guard at Pekin, a large red bordered yellow flag, made of the finest silk, captured by Troop L, of the Sixth cavalry, commanded by Lieutenant Heyer, in an engagement with Chinese imperial troops at Chang Ping Chow, about thirty miles north of Pekin, September 4 last. In the center of the flag, in white letters, is the word "Chang," which means Chang Chun Fa, the commander-in-chief of the province of Hupei. At the side, in black letters, are the words, in Chinese, "Commander-in-chief of advance corps of left flank of Hei Wei army of the province of Hupei." Together with the title "Cher Er Ching" (distinguished and "Pa Tu Lu" (brave).

Accompanying the flag was a personal letter of presentation from General Chaffee, in the course of which he said that affairs in Pekin at that date, October 6, were quiet, and that there was nothing in the situation to cause the least apprehension of anything of a hostile nature.

BRYAN'S PAPER.

Lincoln, Neb. Dec. 15.—William J. Bryan gave out to-day the following statement:

"I have, for several years, had in contemplation the establishment of a weekly newspaper and this seems an opportune time for undertaking it. Intending to devote my life to the study and discussion of public questions, I have taken this method because it will best accomplish the purpose which I have in view. Through a paper, I will be able to keep in touch with social, economic and political problems. The paper will, at the same time, if successful, provide an income sufficient for my pecuniary needs and this kind of work will allow me more time with my family than I have been able to enjoy for several years past.

"I expect to lecture, occasionally, especially in college towns, where I can speak to students; but, my principal work will be done with the pen, or, perhaps I should say, with the pencil.

"The paper will be called The Commoner and will defend the principles set forth in the Kansas City platform. I shall be publisher and editor. Place of publication, Lincoln."

BRIDEGROOM 80, BRIDE 68.

Erie, Pa., Dec. 17.—After a courtship extending over several years, George Shadduck, aged 80, and Rebecca Sharp, aged 68, of Harbor Creek township, were married last night. They had been friends in their youth.

They will take a short honeymoon and be at home to their friends after December 30.

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FOREIGN ITEMS.

PARLIAMENT ADJOURNED.

London, Dec. 15.—Parliament was dismissed to-day, until the middle of February, with the reading of the shortest of the queen's speeches. It was as follows: "My Lords and Gentlemen: I thank you for the liberal provision you have made for the expenses incurred by the operation of my armies in South Africa and China."

The proceedings to-day in the house of commons were a repetition in miniature of the debates of the brief session. The ministers were heckled, the war was violently denounced, and Mr. Chamberlain was further attacked. The war funds were finally voted after the secretary of state for war, Mr. Broderick, had given assurances that the government, during recess, would cordially co-operate with Gen. Kitchener in an endeavor to end the war.

Particularly stinging were the remarks of John Bryn-Roberts, Liberal member for the South Eifon division of Carnarvonshire. He declared that the British treatment of the women of South Africa was an outrage on civilization and that it was blasphemy to hold Christian services in St. Paul's in connection with the return of Lord Roberts while there were such proceedings in South Africa.

Mr. Broderick hotly denounced Mr. Bryn-Roberts' charges, asserting that it was criminal to make allegations which could not be proved, but which, however, would be telegraphed to South Africa to increase the discontent existing there. He held up Mr. Bryn-Roberts to the censure and reprobation of nearly every member of the house of commons. These remarks were greeted with cheers.

Mr. Broderick then repeated that the government did not desire to pursue a policy which would make it more difficult for the Boers to cease fighting, and that the government abided in the declarations of Mr. Chamberlain.

WILHELM'S ADDRESS.

Berlin, Dec. 17.—Emperor William, in his speech yesterday, upon the occasion of the reception given here to a portion of the German contingent which recently arrived from China, said to the returned soldiers:

"With anxious for

DAVIS AMENDMENT

To the Hay-Pauncefote Treaty Adopted by the Senate on Friday.

Washington, Dec. 14.—In accordance with previous agreement the Senate in executive session took a vote at 2 o'clock yesterday afternoon on the amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty authorizing the United States to defend its interests in the canal.

The vote was taken by yeas and nays, 65 votes being cast in favor of the amendment, and 17 against it. The negative votes were as follows:

Baird, Beveridge, Frye, Foster, Hansbrough, Lindsay, Mason, McCumber, McEnery, McBride, Morgan, Money, Stewart, Tillman, Wellington, Wolcott, and Gallinger.

After the amendment offered by the committee was passed various other amendments received the attention of the Senate for a brief time, but none of them was acted upon.

The committee amendment, which was adopted, is a provision to be inserted after section 5, of Article II, of the treaty, and is as follows:

"It is agreed, however, that none of the immediately foregoing conditions and regulations in sections numbered one, two, three, four and five of this article shall apply to measures which the United States may find it necessary to take for securing by its own forces the defense of the United States and the maintenance of public order."

The amendment no sooner had been adopted than various senators took the floor to suggest further amendments. The amendment which probably attracted most attention was offered by Senator Elkins, and is as follows:

"Nothing in this treaty shall be construed to prevent the United States from acquiring sufficient security and sovereignty, or to prevent it from building, operating, maintaining, controlling and defending the said canal (referring to the proposed Nicaragua canal), or for any other purpose that the United States may deem for its best interests."

Other amendments were suggested by Senators Tillman, Allen, Money and Thurston.

Previous to taking the vote on the committee amendments Senator Elkins occupied the greater portion of the Senate's time with a speech advocating radical alteration of the treaty. He announced himself as favorable to the committee amendment, but said that, to his mind, that amendment did not go far enough to meet the wishes of the American people. He believed, he said, that if the canal was to be constructed by the government of the United States the people would demand complete and absolute control over the canal itself, and also the right to exercise their own judgment, as a nation, not only in acquiring property in connection with the canal, but, if need be, in securing sovereignty over it. He contended that to pursue this course involved no violation of international rights, and in defense of this position said the United States had made an offensive and defensive treaty with France in 1783 and soon afterwards had repudiated that obligation. He also cited other precedents and authorities, some of them being from English sources, in support of this position.

After the Senate adjourned for the day the Republican committee on order of business held a session to decide upon the future line of action with reference to the treaty as amended.

MORE TREATY AMENDMENTS

Washington, Dec. 14.—The senate committee on foreign relations to-day held a special meeting and decided to recommend further amendments of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. The committee adopted an amendment suggested by Senator Foraker, which declares that the Hay-Pauncefote treaty supercedes the Clayton-Bulwer treaty and also strikes out the Hay-Pauncefote agreement article 3, which permits the submission of the Hay-Pauncefote treaty to other powers and invites their acceptance of it.

The action of the committee on foreign relations took place after a prolonged conference of senators especially interested in the Hay-Pauncefote treaty. The conference was not called together until 11:45 o'clock, fifteen minutes before the time for the convening of the senate. There was, therefore, no time for a discussion of the amendment adopted or for others suggested. The Republican members announced that they were prepared to amend the treaty on the lines of the Foraker suggestion; that they considered this amendment comprehensive enough to meet all demands and that they would do no more. The Foraker amendment was accordingly agreed to and the committee adjourned in time to permit the members to be in the senate chamber when the senate was called to order.

The meeting of senatorial friends of the treaty occurred in Senator Aldrich's committee room, many of those present being members of the Republican committee on order of business. Their meeting to-day really was the continuance of a conference which was begun yesterday immediately after the adjournment of the senate. The importance of the treaty relative to pending legislation was considered, and a decision was arrived at to press the agreement to a vote if possible. It was also decided that it would be difficult to get it through without still further amendment, and the Foraker amendment was suggested as meeting all the objections.

The President and Secretary Hay also were consulted with reference to the advisability of further amending the treaty by Senators Lodge and Foraker, who called upon them before coming to the Capitol to-day.

Unless amended beyond any degrees proposed in the senate by the responsible leaders, and resolved into such form as to make it an absolute, discourteous matter to be communicated, the pending Hay-Pauncefote treaty will be submitted to the British government by the President.

The communication will be purely pro forma, for the administration has not the slightest idea that the convention will be accepted by the British government. If this belief is well founded, then the document will go into the limbo of treaties failed of ratification, its position comparing in some degree with the Olney-Pauncefote arbitration treaty.

The President might, if he regards the amendments made by the Senate to the treaty as objectionable, take upon himself the responsibility of administering the final stroke by simply withholding it from the British government. There is precedent for such action in the disposal made of certain treaties by President Cleveland. But in that case the objection was all on one side, while, in the present, it is assumed that Great Britain may be the party to whom the amendments are most obnoxious and so might properly be accorded the privilege of passing upon them finally. That is the administration view of the situation. Any expectation that the action of the Senate yesterday upon the Davis amendment to the Hay-Pauncefote treaty would result in the immediate retirement of Secretary Hay from the cabinet, is negatived by the fact that the secretary has not resigned, and, according to his own statement, will not leave the cabinet at present.

MONEY'S RESOLUTION.

Washington, Dec. 13.—Senator Money to-day introduced a resolution in the senate providing authority for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty by diplomatic negotiation. Following is the text of it:

"Resolved, That the President of the United States be respectfully requested to consider the expediency of opening negotiations with the government of Great Britain for the abrogation of the Clayton-Bulwer treaty, with the assurance that such action on his part will meet with the hearty consent and support of the senate."

TURKISH CLAIMS.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Captain Chester cabled the Navy department to-day from Smyrna, notice of the departure of the Kentucky for Port Said on the way to Manila.

It is apprehended at the State department that the reported intention of Great Britain to press at this moment for a settlement of the claims of her citizens against Turkey will have a disastrous effect upon our own negotiations in the interests of the American missions. The State department never has been officially informed that the Turkish government has arranged to pay our claims, although the British action is said to be predicated upon a belief that our claims had been settled.

The greatest obstacle that the state department has encountered in the effort to collect our own claims, was the vast accumulation of European claims against Turkey, leading the government of the latter country to plead that it could not pay our claims without paying the others, which would be utterly impossible. The British claims are said to be many fold larger than our own, and if they are to be pressed now, before our own claims are collected, it is feared that the Turkish government will use the fact as a basis for declining to pay at present.

PRESIDENT'S TRIP.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Vice President Paul Morton, of the Santa Fe system, and Mr. Richard C. Kerens, of St. Louis, had an interview with the President yesterday. For some time a trip to the Pacific coast has been in contemplation. The coming spring or early summer seems to offer the most favorable opportunity. The President has been discussing plans, and it is probable that the month of April will be selected. To some extent, the time will depend upon preparations for the launching of the battleship Ohio from the yards at San Francisco.

The President is looking forward to the journey with pleasant anticipations. He would have crossed the continent last summer but for the fact that it was the campaign year, and he did not want the journey to be construed as in any sense official. The route one way will almost certainly be by way of the Santa Fe system. Going or coming, the President may take the Southern Pacific.

DISCHARGED SOLDIERS.

Washington, Dec. 17.—This was individual pension day in the house. The speaker first recognized Mr. Bromwell (Ohio) who moved to suspend the rules and pass the bill reported by the civil service committee to give preference to honorably discharged soldiers in the executive departments of the government. It provided that honorably discharged soldiers of the civil war and after them honorably discharged soldiers of the Spanish war and the war in the Philippines, be given preference both in appointment to office and retention therein and that loss of limbs or other physical impairment which does not incapacitate shall not disqualify them. After an interesting debate the bill was defeated, 51 to 105.

CITY POPULATIONS.

Washington, Dec. 12.—The census office to-day announced the population of Crestline, O., to be 3,282.

MRS. M'KINLEY'S MOTHER.

Washington, Dec. 12.—Mrs. McKinley received an interesting letter late Saturday night from the principal of the Moravian Seminary for Young Ladies, at Bethlehem, Pa. The letter stated that in going over the old records of the school it was discovered that in 1840 a Mr. Isaac Harter placed a young lady by the name of Catherine De Wault at that school. He specified that she was to be taught all the useful arts during the same time she was receiving her literary education.

Mr. Harter also informed the school authorities that he left the sum of fifty cents, to be given to the young lady for pocket money during the year. The school principal then relates that some years later he finds it recorded in the annals of the school that this same young woman married George Saxton, of Stark county, Ohio. This school, therefore, educated the mother of Mrs. McKinley.

NATIONAL RED CROSS.

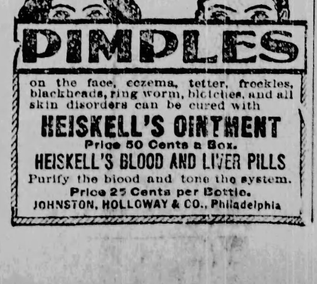
Washington, Dec. 12.—At the annual meeting of the American National Red Cross society yesterday the resignation of Mrs. Phoebe A. Hearst from the board of control on account of the pressure of other duties was accepted and Mrs. W. B. Harrington, president of the California Red Cross society, was appointed to fill the vacancy. The Legion of Loyal Women has been granted authority by the board to be affiliated, as an organization, with the Red Cross society. Mrs. J. Ellen Foster reported that the Red Cross society on the Pacific coast and the Philippines had expended $150,000 in supplementing the efforts of the government in caring for the soldiers. The board of control, through Colonel W. H. Michael, reported that the movement to hold watch meetings on December 31 under the auspices of the Red Cross society was meeting with great favor.

OHIO DOW LAW.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The supreme court of the United States to-day affirmed the decision of the circuit court of the United States for the southern district of Ohio in the case of the Reyman Brewing company vs. Harry Brister, treasurer of Jefferson county, Ohio. The case involved the constitutionality of the Dow Ohio state law providing for the taxation of the liquor traffic. The Reyman company is a West Virginia corporation and it alleged that in the seizure of its property to pay the tax there was discrimination because it is not an Ohio institution and that therefore the statute is void. The court held that while there is a proviso exempting sales in quantities of more than one gallon at the place of manufacture, the exemption is not confined to Ohio corporations or partnerships. The exemption, Justice Shiras, who delivered the opinion of the court, said, came within the exercise of the police powers of the state and was intended to lessen the evils attaching to saloons. It was not therefore a violation of the constitution of the United States.

HOMESTEAD SEEKERS.

Washington, Dec. 17.—Soon after the Senate convened to-day a bill extending to homestead seekers on the Chippewa Indian reservation in Minnesota the right to commute their entries was reported by Mr. Nelson, of Minnesota. After a half hour's discussion of the measure in an effort to make it general in its application it was recommitted to the committee.



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PAUNCEFOTE AND HAY CONFER

No Great Disagreement After All

Relative to the Chinese Situation--Ministers at Pekin Meet To-morrow.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Secretary Hay had a conference for a short time this morning with Lord Pauncefote, the British ambassador, devoted solely to the Chinese situation. The result was to clear up so far as that can be accomplished, in Washington, some obscurity as to the Pekin agreement and, unless unexpected opposition comes from some other source, neither the state department nor the British embassy has any reason to apprehend further delay in the consummation of the agreement.

A misunderstanding appears to exist as to the British attitude, according to officials here. So far from holding out for more severe terms and harsher measures generally, it is stated that the British government is in thorough accord with our own policy, as developed in the latest Pekin negotiations, and the exchanges that have taken place between Secretary Hay and Lord Pauncefote. The United States government itself has taken every precaution, in making its contribution to the agreement, to insure its binding force and at no time has the British government sought to go beyond the state department in the terminology proposed for the agreement.

MOSQUITO INOCULATON.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Surgeon General Sternberg has received a cable message from Major Walter Reed, of the medical department, stationed at Havana, saying that the recent experiments with mosquito inoculation have been entirely successful in 80 per cent of the cases under treatment.

These experiments are being conducted by Dr. Reed and other surgeons of the army near Havana, with the approval and aid of Major General Wood, commanding the division of Cuba. They are based upon conclusions reached by Major Reed and other medical officers recently appointed to conduct scientific investigations with reference to the acute infectious diseases prevalent in Cuba.

So far the inoculation has been confined to Spanish immigrants intending to settle in Cuba and desirous of making themselves immune to yellow fever. These persons have voluntarily presented themselves for inoculation with a full understanding of the nature of the experiment.

DEGETAU ARRIVED.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The newly elected commissioner from Porto Rico, Mr. Degetau, has made his appearance at the capitol and was cordially welcomed by senators and representatives. In talking with members of congress he expressed satisfaction at the warm greeting given him by the President and other officials and with the general spirit of friendliness shown toward the island he represents. The Porto Rican people, he said, want to become Americans in the full sense as fast as possible and they also hope their representative will be accorded the rank of delegate. He spoke in high terms of Gov. Allen and of the good administration of Secretary Hunt and Commissioner of Education Brumaugh in Porto Rico.

TRIBUTE TO BOUTELLE.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Just before the house adjourned yesterday, a fine tribute was paid to Representative Charles A. Boutelle, of Maine, who served 18 years in congress, and who had been reelected to the Fifty-seventh congress. Mr. Littlefield, of Maine, asked unanimous consent for the consideration of a bill to place him on the retired list as a captain in the navy. Mr. Boutelle having been in the navy during the civil war.

Mr. Littlefield said that Mr. Boutelle's condition was such that he undoubtedly would resign. The condition of the Maine representative was well-known to representatives, and, although some of them were inclined to protest against the proposed legislation as establishing a dangerous precedent, no objection was made, and the bill was passed.

NOW HALF A LAW.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The war revenue reduction bill has passed the House.

CANNOT INTERVENE.

Washington, Dec. 18.—The state department has rendered an opinion to the effect that the United States government cannot intervene in favor of Porto Rico in the matter of her claim against Cuba for $2,500,000.

In substance, the decision is to the effect that, leaving aside the question of equity in this case, to sanction the collection of this claim against Cuba now would be to open the door to numberless other and larger claims, which would exhaust the financial resources of the island.

REAPPORTIONMENT.

Washington, Dec. 17.—The House committee on census, by a vote of 7 to 6, agreed to report the Hopkins reapportionment bill, leaving the total membership of the House at 357, as at present, and rearranging a number of state delegations. The bill will not be taken up until after the holidays.

YERKES' LUCK.

Washington, Dec. 13.—The President nominated John W. Yerkes, of Kentucky, to be collector of internal revenue.

Sentences Commuted.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Privates Benjamin Stanley and Thomas Feaster, of Co. G, 48th volunteer infantry, stationed in the Philippines, were convicted recently by court martial of rape and desertion and each was sentenced to be hanged. The President has commuted the sentence in each case to dishonorable discharge, forfeiture of all pay and allowances, and confinement at hard labor at Leavenworth penitentiary for a period of twenty years.

Proposed Amendment.

Washington, Dec. 15.—Representative McDermott, of New Jersey, who recently succeeded Mr. Daly, deceased, introduced a resolution in the house proposing an amendment to the constitution providing no state shall authorize or create corporations except those for banking and insurance, and that the federal congress shall pass general laws for the organization and control of corporations.

POOR OLD PARTY!

Cleveland Says Democracy Has Wandered After Strange Gods.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 18.—The Atlanta Journal publishes an interview with Former President Cleveland, obtained by a staff correspondent at Princeton, N. J. Mr. Cleveland is quoted as follows: "In my opinion the great need of the democratic party is a return to first principles. The Democratic party has not been fatally disorganized, but it sadly needs rehabilitation on purely Democratic lines.

"What is the matter with the party? It has in my humble judgment, simply wandered off after strange gods. A large mass of Democratic voters saw this before the last election. They remained quiet but when the time came to vote they said: 'This is not Democracy,' and refused to support it.

"As I see it, it is the duty of Democrats everywhere to aid in the rehabilitation of the party. There are some signs of an insistence upon the necessity of a return to Democratic doctrines in the south, but they are not so general as I would like to see."

"What of the future?" was asked.

"With a sincere return to its old time doctrines," Mr. Cleveland replied, "the old time victories of the Democratic party will certainly be won."

SHE RESIGNED.

Washington, Dec. 18.—Dr. Anita Newcomb McGee is the only woman who has the right to wear the shoulder-straps of an officer of the United States army. She has just resigned as acting assistant surgeon, United States army, in charge of the Army Nurse Corps. The

DR. ANITA NEWCOMB McGEE

rank of first lieutenant was given her after she had organized a corps of nurses for active field service during the Spanish-American war. Her work was highly regarded.

DENVER TURNED DOWN.

St. Louis, Dec. 18.—The executive committee of the Grand Army of the Republic held a special meeting yesterday to decide on a place for the next national encampment, which will be held in September 10, 1901. The cities desirous of securing the encampment are Denver, Washington, Cleveland and Pittsburg.

While no place was definitely chosen, the claims of Denver were turned down by a vote of 8 to 1. This does not settle the matter, for Denver's representatives say that they will fight the decision. It was voted last summer to accept Denver as the site, providing that city could secure railroad rates of one cent a mile. This was the point on which the committee and the Denver representatives disagreed, the latter claiming that the rate is practically assured, while the committee chose to accept the evidence and on a new vote, January 22, to consider the claims of the other cities, the place of meeting to be announced later.

MAYOR IS IN JAIL.

Atlanta, Ga., Dec. 18.—Mayor James G. Woodward, of this city, has been arrested and locked up in the police barracks on the charge of being drunk. Some time ago, for the same cause, the city council and board of aldermen threatened impeachment proceedings against Mayor Woodward, but upon promises that he would abstain from further intoxication, no action was taken. The mayor tendered his resignation to the body, and it was placed in the hands of Councilman Rawson, who holds it on condition that if the mayor becomes intoxicated it shall be tendered for acceptance. The resignation was submitted yesterday afternoon at a meeting of that body.

THE BOOZ INQUIRY.

Bristol, Pa., Dec. 17.—The military board of inquiry appointed by the secretary of war to investigate charges made by the relatives and friends of Oscar L. Booz, the former West Point cadet, that he came to his death on December 3 at his home here as the result of hazing by fellow-cadets at the academy two years ago, began the taking of testimony here to-day.

The board, consisting of Major General John E. Brooke, commanding the department of the east; Brigadier General Alfred E. Bates and Colonel J. H. Clouse, deputy judge advocate general, arrived here at 10:30 o'clock this morning. They were met at the railroad station by William M. Booz, the father of the former cadet, and Rev. Alexander Adison, pastor of the Bristol Presbyterian church, the worshiping place of the Booz family. The members of the board were escorted to the church where the inquiry was held in the pastor's study.

The entire Booz family was present.

The inquiry began at 10:50 o'clock, the first witness called being Mr. Booz, who was invited to tell all he knew. Mr. Booz stated that Oscar entered the academy on June 20, 1898. Soon after letters were received from him stating that he had been hazed.

ROBBED OF $15,000.

Hope, Ind., Dec. 18.—Kennedy's bank was burglarized early to-day by three men, who destroyed the vault with a heavy charge of nitro-glycerine and secured, it is stated, $15,000.

So quietly was the job done that the robbers secured their plunder and were entering a carriage, which they had in waiting in a darkened part of the main street, on which the bank was located, when their actions were observed by the operator in charge of the telephone exchange. The alarm was quickly spread, and a posse of citizens began at once to scour the surrounding country.

Took Off the Tax.

Washington, Dec. 15.—The house has reversed the action of the committee of the whole yesterday on the freight and express receipt tax amendment.

I CURE FITS

When I say I cure I do not mean merely to stop them for a time and then have them return again. I mean a radical cure. I have made the disease of FITS, EPILEPSY or FALLING SICKNESS a life-long study. I warrant my remedy to cure the worst cases. Because others have failed is no reason for not now receiving a cure. Send at once for a treatise and a Free Bottle of my infallible remedy. Give Express and Post Office.

Prof. W. H. PEEKE, F.D., 4 Cedar St., N.Y.

BIG STEEL POOL.

Large Concerns Are Negotiating an Iron Clad Agreement.

Cleveland, O., Dec. 18.—Negotiations are on foot and declared to be certain of successful conclusion for the formation of a pool by fourteen of the largest steel plate manufacturing establishments in the United States. Among the concerns included are named the Carnegie Steel company, the Illinois Steel Co., the Federal Steel Co., the Lenkens Steel Co., the National Steel Co., and the American Steel and Wire Co. It is said that the Carnegie company heads the list with 19 per cent of the total business of all the mills. The meetings for formation of the pool have been held within the last two weeks in Chicago and Pittsburg. The pool is arranged on the per centage basis, and the country is divided into territories, to be exclusively supplied with steel plates by the various members of the pool. The price agreed upon at the last meeting in Chicago was $28 per ton at Pittsburg, with additions elsewhere equivalent to freight charges. The decision was also reached to do away with commercial agents. The pool effects the domestic market alone, all the concerns being on an equal footing so far as the foreign market is concerned.

CHOATE MAY RESIGN.

New York, Dec. 18.—A dispatch to the Journal and Advertiser from London says:

"Ambassador Choate will, it is said, sail either on Saturday or the week afterward for the United States, the death of his partner, Charles C. Beaman, having rendered his presence in New York necessary.

"The news of Mr. Beaman's death was a great shock, as he had no idea that his partner was even ailing. It is believed here that Ambassador Choate will not return to London. He is not a rich man and his life here as ambassador entails not only the loss of his professional income, but is likewise a heavy drain on his purse, as his salary is barely sufficient to pay his house rent. This, in itself, rendered him disinclined to remain for another four years, and now that his partner in the firm of Evarts, Choate & Beaman is dead it is more than ever probable he will not return."

TO FIGHT SUGAR TRUST.

Philadelphia, Pa., Dec. 15.—It is stated authoritatively that the formation in this city of a new independent sugar refining company is contemplated, and that among those interested are Philadelphians who have been prominently identified with the sugar-making industry.

Plans for the building of a refinery are now in process of formation, and the outlook for the organization of a company is said to be good. If the project is carried forward to success, the new refinery will be absolutely independent. It would require at least eighteen months to build and put in operation such a plant and large capital would be required, but it is stated that the money will be found, and that capitalists in other cities, including Boston, are desirous of embarking in the new enterprise. Among those who are thought likely to be interested in the new company in the event of its formation is W. W. Harrison, who was for many years connected with the Franklin Sugar Refining Company, and who is said to be the most expert sugar maker in the country.

PLYMOUTH ROCK.

Plymouth, Mass., Dec. 13.—The canopy over Plymouth Rock has been defaced by vandals. The act, to all appearances, was deliberately done. This canopy is of granite, 15 by 15 feet, and 30 feet high, being built in the form of four piers with arched openings, and surmounted by a granite roof. The square stones on either side of the western entrance are bruised, and the angles broken off, while marks of other hammering are plain on various parts of the base. A reward has been offered by the Pilgrim Society for the detection of the vandals. To make perfect repairs on the canopy, the entire structure might have to be rebuilt.

AGED 105.

Northampton, Mass., Dec. 13.—Mrs. Angelique Galipeau, 105 years old, died here yesterday. She was a native of Montreal and was born January 25, 1795.

The Markets.

WEEKLY TRADE REVIEW.

New Lork., Dec. 15.—R. G. Dun & Co.'s Weekly Review of Trade says:

Holiday trade has increased moderately, and in wholesale staple lines no relapse is seen either in volume of transaction or in prices. Cold weather has helped New York, but it is still behind the rest of the country, for some recent losses from failures in the textile markets have fallen rather heavily here. Collections in the country continue good, and this relieves anxiety, which might be otherwise felt over the higher rates for money. Merchants' accounts are in good position, so that new sales of commercial paper are light, even for this season. Industrial conditions continue with no great accumulation of new merchandise in any quarter. In spite of the break in cotton, the market for fabrics is still in good position, sellers having little to offer and nothing at cuts in prices. A sharp rise to a minimum of $4.85 in wholesale price of coal, fully 35 cents in two weeks, reflects the actual scarcity of the product more than negotiations to harmonize the trade. Even the estimates did not equal the actual decrease in furnace stocks of pig iron during November, which amounted to 84,830 tons, according to The Iron Age. This authority reports an increase in the weekly capacity of furnaces in blast to 328,846 tons on December 1, which is the first gain recorded since June. General conditions as to partially manufactured and finished products in the iron and steel industry are little changed. Prices are hard, and mills are working on old orders that will take them well into the new year. At Pittsburg, there is still complaint that new business is not offered, but Chicago concerns have no such difficulty. More idle mills have resumed, and little wage controversy is heard. It is estimated that 1,200,000 tons of rails have been ordered for next year's delivery. American makers have scored another triumph in the African bridge contract, secured in the face of British competition.

Most footwear manufacturers have booked sufficient business to keep them well occupied for many weeks, and are refusing new contracts, except at a further advance in price.

New England factories are mainly working on spring goods, and mail orders come freely from distant sections. Improvement is noticed in the local jobbing trade, aside from rubber goods, which are neglected. Sales of wool at the three eastern markets increased to 6,788,800 pounds against 5,267,344 in the previous week. Exports of cotton in November were valued at $15,054,071 more than in the same month last year, mainly owing to an advance of 2.3 cents in price. The enormous rise in quotations is shown by the fact that a year ago the average export price was 2.1 cents above November, 1898, making 4.3 cents, or $2.7 per cent advance in two years. Shipments in November fell to 841,846 bales, against 1,211,234 in the previous month, indicating that foreign spinners are less urgent for raw material. Port receipts have been heavy, and there was a collapse in price on the official estimates of the current yield at 10,100,000 bales for a much lower figure was expected and traders remembered that last year's prognostications proved half a million bales below the actual production. Cereals did not maintain their advance. Coffee has suffered from liberal receipts at Brazil ports and No. 7 Rio is 1⅜c below a month ago.

Failures for the week were 240 in the United States against 218 last year, and 26 in Canada against 26 last year.

SOUTHWEST RICE SHORT.

New Orleans, Dec. 18.—The rice crop has been harvested, and the product for Louisiana and Texas is estimated at 1,250,000 sacks, about 200,000 sacks short of last year. The prices for the cereal and the appearance of the American Rice Growers' Distribution company, with a pledge to buy all the rice that may be raised at a fixed price, which assures a good profit to the rice farmers, has given an immense impetus to the business. The prospects are good for a large crop next year. More rice is sold at higher prices than ever before.

The rice industry has extended into southeastern Texas, where 110,000 acres will be planted this year, and probably much more than that if the seed could be obtained. The acreage is limited only by the seed and the continuation of irrigating canals. A number of canal companies, with capitals of from $300,000 to $500,000 have been organized.

Throughout southwestern Louisiana and the neighboring section of Texas a rice boom is under way. The farmers seem inclined to abandon other crops to grow rice, which is easier to cultivate and more profitable.

GRAIN MARKETS.

Toledo, Dec. 18.—Close.—There was a little more business in wheat on the Toledo exchange than there has been for a week or two. There was a better demand for cash and December. With firm cables the opening was steady at the same figures as the close of Saturday. There were few features and nothing in the news to affect prices, which ruled steady until about noon. A weakness then developed and the close was ⅜ to ⅝ lower.

Northwestern receipts and the receipts at primary points continue heavy and the weather is unseasonably mild.

The trade in corn was light, but prices were firmer.

Oats remain quiet and steady.

In clover seed there was a fairly active trade and the business was considerably more than for some time. Receipts were 235 bags and shipments 598.

Quotations at the close were:

Corn—Cash, 39c; Dec., 39½c; No. 3 yellow, 37½c.

Oats—Cash and Dec., 23½c; May, 25c; No. 2 white, 25½c; No. 3 white, 25c.

Rye, 52c.

Clover seed—1800 prime, $6.35; Dec., $6.75; March, $6.85; No. 2, $5.70@5.87½; rejected, $5.40@5.55.

At Chicago.

Interest of Board of Trade operators was centered in the corn pit today. Trade in that cereal embraced every listed option, but the efforts of December shorts to cover their lines made that option the leader in activity. Opening ½@¾c higher at 40 to 40¼c, December immediately advanced to 41c on a comparatively moderate trade. Long corn then came out and the market reacted to 40c, but rallied to 40¼c. There was no contract corn in the 738 cars inspected today, and this fact had a far from quieting influence on shorts.

January corn sold from 39¼@39¾c to 39⅝ and 39¾c, an advance of ¼c, then reacted to 39¼c. May, normally the leading future, opened a shade lower on the more seasonable weather, starting at 39¼@39⅜c. It sold at 39¼@39⅝c, and reacted to 39¼c.

Wheat was dull but steady. The market was a shade higher at the opening, slightly higher quotations from Liverpool encouraging local buying. The market held steady for some time on a small trade, later eased off somewhat. May opened at 72¾@73⅝c and declined to 73½c. Northwest receipts were 481 cars, against 469 last week and 273 a year ago. Chicago receipts were 258 cars, none of contract grade. The stocks of contract wheat showed an increase of 409,000 bushels for the week.

Oats were dull but steady. Receipts were 221 cars. May opened unchanged at 23⅝@23¾c.

Provision prices were inclined toward lower levels at the opening, a heavy run of hogs causing some liquidation. Later the market firmed up all around with corn. January pork opened 2½c lower at $12.12½, and advanced to $12.15; January lard opened 2½c lower at $6.82½, and advanced to $6.85@6.87½; January ribs opened 5c lower at $6.20 and advanced to $6.25.

Following are the quotations from the various boards:

TOLEDO.

Wheat—	Open.	High.	Low.	Close.	To-day Dec. 17 Close.
Cash	76½	76½	75¾	76¾	76
December	76	76	75¾	75¾	76
May	79⅛	79⅛	78⅝	78⅝	79
CHICAGO.					
Wheat—					
December	70	70¼	69¾@¾	69⅝	70@¼
January	70¾	70⅝	69¾	70	70@¼
May	73⅝	73⅞	72⅞	72⅝	73¼
Corn—					
December	40	41	40	41	39½
January	39¼	39	38¾	38¾@¾	39⅜
May	36⅛	36⅝	36⅛	36¼	36⅛
Oats—					
December	21⅛			21⅛	21⅛
January	21⅝	21¾	21⅝	21⅝@¾	21¾
May	25⅝@¾	25¾	25⅜	25⅜	25⅝@¾
NEW YORK.					
Wheat—					
December	77¼	77¼	76½	76⅝	77⅛
May	79⅝@¾	79¾	78½	78⅝	79
Corn—					
December	45½	46¼	45½	46⅛	45⅝
May	42⅞	42¾	42⅛	42⅜	42⅝
ST. LOUIS.					
Wheat—					
December	70⅞	70⅞	70½	70⅝	70⅞
May	73	73⅛	72½	73⅜	73⅛
MINNEAPOLIS.					
Wheat—					
December	71⅛	71⅛	70⅞	70⅞	71⅛
May	74⅝	74⅝	73⅝	73⅝	73⅝
DULUTH.					
Wheat—					
December	71¼	71¼	70⅞	71	71¼
May	75¼	75⅝	74⅞	75	75¼
CHICAGO PROVISIONS.					
Pork—					
January	$12.12	$12.12	$12.07	$12.07	$12.15
May	12.05	12.05	11.97	12.00	12.07
Lard—					
January	6.82	6.87	6.82	6.82	6.85
May	6.87	6.90	6.85	6.87	6.90
Ribs—					
January	6.20	6.15	6.20	6.22	6.25
May	6.27	6.32	6.27	6.27	6.32

MONEY AND STOCKS

New York, Dec. 18.—The weakness of the London market affected some international stocks at the opening here. Northern Pacific was most conspicuous, falling a point on running sales of 6,500 shares. Otherwise losses were fractional and many stocks showed good gains. The local transactions were prominent. Metropolitan Street railway rising 2½ and Brooklyn Transit about a point. St. Louis and San Francisco led the railroad list with a gain of 1½. The market was quite active, but not excited.

Professional operators tested the market after the opening, forcing declines in the stocks which opened higher and moving up the earlier reactionary ones. This movement was prominent in Transit, while Metropolitan fell 2 points. Meanwhile some of the specialties were manipulated upward, including Sugar, Manhattan, International Paper preferred, Cotton Oil preferred, Federal Steel and Tin Plate. The latter rose 2%.

New York Stock Market.

	Open.	High.	Low.	Close	Close.
Am. Cotton	31¾				31⅞
Am. Tobacco Co	106½	111	106½	110¾	
Am. Steel Wire	87¾	87¾	87¾	87¾	
Am. Steel W. com	43¾	44¾	43¾	43¾	
Am. Sug. Ref. Co	124¾	125¾	124¾	125¾	
Atchison	42¾	43¾	42¾	43¾	
Atchison pfd	86¾				87
Am. Car & F. Co	27⅞				27½
Balto. & Ohio	81½	81½	80¾	80¾	
Brook. R. Trans	75¾	78¾	75¾	77¾	
Burlington	126¾	126¾	125¾	126¾	
Con. Tob. Co	37¾	39¾	37¾	39¾	
Col. Fuel	57	54½	53¾	53¾	
Chesa. & Ohio	39¾	39¾	39¾	39¾	
C. C. C. & St. L	70½	73¾	70½	72¾	
Fed. Steel	53¾	54¾	53¾	54¼	
Fed. Steel pfd	79½				79
Gen. Electric	172	174½	171¼	174½	
Glucose	53½				54
Hocking	42¾	42¾	41¾	42¾	
Hocking, pfd	74¼				75¾
Louis & Nash	84¾	85¼	84¾	85¼	
Leather	14½	14¾	14	14½	
Leather, pfd	75½				75½
L. E. & W	43¾				43
Manhattan	113	114	113¾	113¾	
Missouri Pacific	42¾	43¾	42¾	43¾	
Missouri, K. & T	41	42	41	41¾	
Nat. Tube, com	62¾	62¾	62	62¾	
North. Pacific	78	78¾	77¾	77¾	
North. Pacific, pfd	77¾	77¾	77¾	77¾	
New York Central	142¾	143¾	142¾	143	
N. & W., com	42¾	43¼	42¾	43¼	
Pennsylvania	143¾	144½	143¾	144½	
Pacific Mail	41	41¾	40¾	41	
Peoples Gas	99¾	99¾	98¾	98¾	
Reading, 1st pfd	69¾	69¾	69¾	69¾	
Rock Island	115¾	118¾	117¾	117¾	
Rep. S. & I. C	16¾	17	16¾	16¾	
South. Ry., pfd	69¾	71¾	69¾	71	
St. Paul	131¾	132¾	131¾	132¾	
South. Pacific	42¾	43¾	42¾	43¼	
Tenn. Coal and Iron	62	63	61¾	62¾	
Union Pacific	75¾	76	75	76	
Union Pacific, pfd	85¾	86	85¾	85¾	
Wabash, pfd	24¾	25¾	24¾	25¾	
Western Union	85¾	86¾	85¾	86¾	
W. L. E.	29¾	30	29¾	30	

New York Money Market.

Money on call steady at 5 per cent, prime mercantile paper, 4½@5½ per cent, sterling exchange, actual business in bankers' bills at $4.84½@4.84¾ for demand and at $4.80¾@4.80¾ for 60 days; posted rates, $4.82@4.83½ and $4.85@4.85½